

Gifted and Talented program hosts meeting

The Virginia Beach Association for the Gifted and talented will sponsor an evening of informational briefings at First Colonial High School at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 18.

Breakout sessions about all gifted program option in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools will be highlighted.

Presentations include: identification of gifted children

and steps in the admission process; resource programs for elementary, middle and high school students; Old Donation Center's programs; Kemps Landing Magnet School; International Baccalaureate at Princess Anne High School; and, the math/science program at Ocean Lakes High School.

For more information, contact Philippa Lipscomb at 473-5043.

Police Web page takes a bite out of crime

The Virginia Beach Police Department now has an Internet Web Page which lists all warrants on file in Virginia Beach.

The department's Planning and Analysis Unit downloads the information from the mainframe warrant system, the data is then converted to an Internet compatible format and uploaded to the city's Internet file server. The data will be updated on a weekly basis.

This page will be linked to the Police Department homepage and

will be accessible from both the city homepage and the Crime Solvers homepage. To reach the Warrants homepage use the City Web site (www.virginia-beach.va.us) then click on SEARCH and type WANTED. The address for the Crime Solvers homepage is www.crimesolvers.com.

Those with information about wanted persons are reminded to take no action themselves, but to call police. Information must be verified before any action is taken.

Attendance zones are subject of city hearing

The Virginia Beach School will hold a public hearing on school attendance zones for Langston (Kempsville area), Christopher Farms Elementary School and Corporate Landing Middle School on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 3 p.m. in the School Board Room on 2512 George Mason Dr.

Call the clerk of the board at 426-4374 to sign up to speak. Copies of the attendance zone proposals are available for review in the main office of each school and the Office of Demographics at the School Administration Annex, 2453 Princess Anne Rd. Contact Kenneth Lumpkin at 426-5888.

Tidewater Humane sets music concert series

As a continuing part of its "Animals and the Arts" series, Tidewater Humane announces three benefit concerts to raise funds for its reduced-cost spay/neuter assistance program. Tickets are \$20 each, and a wine and cheese reception will follow each performance.

The concert locations and dates are: Nauticus, Feb. 7 & 8 p.m., and Virginia Center for Contemporary Art, Feb. 9, 3 p.m.

Thomas Marshall (the organist at Williamsburg Presbyterian

Church) and Allen Shaffer (organist/choirmaster at Christ, and St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Norfolk) will perform together as "Les deux Cleveins," the Marshall-Shaffer Harpsichord Duo. Proceeds from the three concerts will be donated to Tidewater Humane.

Since 1992, the duo has made numerous appearances throughout Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey. Les deux Cleveins performs on two French double harpsichords.

Jamestown discoveries topic of slide lecture

The past year has yielded exciting new information about Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement. The Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA) has conducted archaeological research on James Island. The discoveries have initiated a fundamental change in our understanding of the lives of Virginia's early colonists.

Learn how the interpretation of Virginia's history is evolving. Dr. William M. Kelso, director of archaeology for the APVA's

Jamestown Rediscovery Archaeological Project, will present a slide/lecture entitled "James Towne Rediscovered" on Thursday, Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Virginia Beach Fire Training Center Auditorium (927 S. Birdneck Rd.). This program is sponsored by the Francis Land House Historic Site and Gardens.

Tickets are available in advance at the Francis Land House and are \$3 each. Tickets will be sold at the door if still available. Call 431-4000 for information.

Lee's Friends helpers sought for program

Lee's Friends, helping people live with cancers, needs lay and professional volunteers to offer person to person emotional and practical support to cancer patients and their families of all ages and stages in South

Hampton Roads. Drivers (substitute and regular) and office workers are also needed. Call Emily Filer or Carol Olsen at 625-3115 (9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., or leave message) for an appointment.

Beach studies ways to improve trolley service

By LEE CAHILL

City Council Reporter

Public transit, like the trolleys at the beach during the summer, are supposed to get people where they want to go without the bother of driving or long waits in traffic.

But that isn't happening at the beach.

Mayor Meyera Oberdorf remarked at a council workshop Tuesday that the trolleys can't get through traffic any better than the automobiles during peak periods like Friday and Saturday nights. Maybe what the city needs are specific lanes for trolleys and buses, she suggested.

That's exactly what the Virginia Beach Resort Area Transit Study, prepared by BRW, Inc. of Orlando, recommends. That and a few other changes to attract more people to use the trolleys and reduce congestion on

the streets are suggested.

Mark Niles, presenting the report at the workshop, recommended a three-phased program which would cost an estimated \$9.6 million (most of that in the provision of permanent trolley lanes) in capital costs. The operation and maintenance costs after the three phases are in place would amount to an estimated \$364,220.

City Manager James K. Spore said that his recommendation would be to test out the restricted lanes, to go ahead with the phase 1 of the project to see how it works. Establishing phase 1, he said, is no indication that the city is going head with the next two phases.

Phase 1 would cost an estimated \$90,300 in Operation and maintenance costs and \$44,530 in capital costs.

For phase 1 improvements

temporary reserved lanes would be established for trolleys from 14th to 25th streets on Atlantic Avenue. Since the reserved lanes would include the police enforcement lane, Niles said, the police have not been too supportive of the project. An alternative, he said would be to have one lane on Atlantic and the other on Pacific Avenue, but Niles said this would not work as well. The whole object of the changes is to make the trolleys more attractive to users and to increase the number of users.

With reserve lanes, trolleys will flow freely and people will have an alternative, an incentive to board a trolley.

Other possibilities are locating both trolley lanes on Pacific, which would not be as effective as having them on Atlantic and incorporating a boardwalk tram, which may conflict with

pedestrians.

Other recommendations to make trolleys user friendly are the use of field supervisors 10-cent tokens which could be distributed by hotels, visibility enhancement by the use of special logos, a theme and distinctive uniforms for drivers, more frequent bus service and reliable schedules. Operators, said Niles, also need training and since the Beach pay scale is the lowest of similar communities on the east coast, Niles said, and the work seasonal, incentives and bonuses could be used.

The first phase would also include an expanded museum route, the most popular route for the trolleys.

Councilman W.W. Harrison Jr. suggested that the driver could point out the points of interest.

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Ready...set...take the plunge!

Hearty brave icy Atlantic for Virginia Special Olympics

By ABBI BALSMIEIR

Sun Intern

It's the time of year when beach towels and swimming suits are usually packed away.

It's the time of year when beach strollers are few and uncovered legs and feet do not exist.

But last Saturday hundreds of people dug out their swimming gear and showed legs, feet and more for the fifth annual Polar Plunge.

The hale and hearty gathered—about 600 in all—on the beach behind Holiday Inn Sun Spree at 39th Street and Atlantic Avenue to watch family, friends and co-workers take a chilly dip into the Atlantic Ocean.

The Polar Plunge is a fund-raiser for the Virginia Special Olympics.

Those gathering on the beach chatted nervously about the 42-degree water and the skin shock they were about to receive.

"They're doing something a little crazy," Director of Development for the Virginia Special Olympics Scott Schreiber said.

About 1 p.m., plungers began to line up in front of the water's edge. After some group pictures were taken, the go-ahead was given and hundreds of half-dressed men, women and children sprinted into the waves.

Schreiber said 350 people participated in the event last year. "We've had overwhelming

support from the community," he said.

An abundance of shrill screams rang out as bodies crashed against the cold waves. Most stayed in long enough just to get wet. Others waded around taking in the feel of the freezing salt water against their warm skin.

EMS crews and the Dive Team were on hand in case of any accidents.

Plungers' enthusiasm was evident not only by their willingness to hang around in the cold waters, but by painting their chests and faces in support of the Virginia Special Olympics.

"I believe people think Virginia Special Olympics is a worthy cause. It gives them (plungers) an added incentive," Schreiber said.

Sandra Stubbs, a plunger, said this year was the second year she'd participated in the event.

"Everyone has their charity. This is mine," she noted.

Lori Melton, a member of the U.S. Navy and a plunger, said she's up for anything.

"I think this is a great cause. I'll do anything," she said.

Schreiber said money raised from the event will provide sports training and athletic competition to 10,800 children and adults with mental retardation in the Commonwealth.

The money also allows Virginia Special Olympics to send athletes to various state competitions.

Polar Plunge V was sponsored by Adventure Club, Hardee's, Holiday Inn Sun Spree, USAir,



Photo by Abbi Balsmeier
BRRR! They didn't stay long as the icy water quickly numbed Polar Plungers' extremities. The annual dip is a fund-raiser for Virginia Special Olympics.

WNOR FM99 and WTKR News Channel 3.

The plunger raising the most money over the minimum \$1,000 received two airline tickets to Florida, compliments of USAir. This is the first year that Polar Plunge was able to offer such a large grand prize.

"We're lucky that USAir supported us in this venture," Schreiber said.

Schreiber said the idea for the Polar Plunge originated with the Adventure Club. The business

approached the Virginia Special Olympics with the idea to raise money for the charity.

"It's fun. It's out of the ordinary," Schreiber said.

Others have been loyal supporters of the charity as well, Schreiber said.

The Norfolk Sheriff's Office and many of the military bases in the area have been continually involved in the event.

"We've had great support from a lot of different groups," Schreiber said.

Kindness movement gains momentum

By VICTORIA HECHT

Sun Editor

Even nice folks have their ups and downs.

Just ask those committed to RASK — Random Acts of Shared Kindness.

Founded in 1993 by Peter Bushman, then-president of Commonwealth College's Student Council, the concept of "goodness guerrillas" spread surprisingly fast throughout Hampton Roads.

Opening doors for strangers, paying the toll for the next car in line, and just smiling at others became more than just acts. They became attitudes.

But when Bushman's mother-in-law, Pauline Moore, struggled with pancreatic cancer throughout much of 1994 and 1995, RASK faltered when its leader's attention was elsewhere.

In 1996, it steadily grew again. In 1997, RASK is back with a vengeance — that is, if "nice people" have a vengeance.

You can find out next starting



Photo by Victoria Hecht
NICE FOLKS FINISH FIRST. Supporters of Random Acts of Shared Kindness are all set to spread smiles during next week's Nation Kindness Week observance. Seven days of activities are planned.

[See KINDNESS, Page 6]

Commentary

BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY

Strap 'em in

You wouldn't let your child play in traffic, would you? Of course not. Then why risk your child's safety in a vehicle?

As part of National Child Passenger Safety Week (Feb. 9-17), The Virginia Coalition for Vehicle Choice is urging parents to double check that their children are buckled up safely when riding in cars and trucks. The number one rule to remember is that children, particularly infants, should always be properly secured in the back seat — the safest place for all children to ride.

All 50 states require the use of child safety seats and safety belts for young passengers. Fortunately, usage has increased dramatically over the past 15 years. Yet motor vehicle crashes remain the number one cause of death among children — the highway's tiniest victims. Safety belts and child seats, when used properly, can reduce the risk of fatal injury by more than half. Hundreds of deaths and serious injuries could be prevented each year if all children were properly protected.

Excuses for not using them just won't cut it. "I was in a hurry," one woman told a Richmond emergency room pediatrician. "I took my 3-year-old out of the car seat when I had a new baby," another explained. Still another merely said, "My child cries when he's in the car seat."

Yet the fact remains that the majority of early childhood deaths could be thwarted if parents would use a little common sense.

Correct usage of each car seat type is critical to obtaining maximum protection of Virginia's children. The child seat should be properly anchored to the vehicle, and the youngster should be buckled in snugly. Parents should also check to make sure that older children are wearing safety belts properly.

The Coalition for Vehicle Choice offered other safety pointers:

- Infants under 1 year of age should be transported in infant seats that face the rear of the vehicle. They should be in the back seat, not the front, especially where there is a passenger-side airbag. Airbags have, in some cases, fatally injured babies in infant seats placed up front.

- Children aged 1 to 4 should be carried in toddler seats installed facing forward in the back seat. Larger children in that age range may be able to use booster seats that work in conjunction with the vehicle's safety belts.

- Older children should use the vehicle's safety belt. Position the shoulder belt so that it is comfortable and off the neck. Lap belts should be worn low and snug on the hips.

- Parents should register new child safety seats with the manufacturer so that they can be notified in the event of a safety recall or other problem.

But precautions don't stop there. Having an undamaged, properly functioning car seat is just as imperative. According to the Hampton Roads-based Concerned-Citizens Advocating Traffic Safety (CCATS), surveys and inspections show that many parents and caregivers purchase car seats from garage sales, thrift stores or use seats borrowed from friends and families. What they don't realize is that many of these safety seats are unsafe because of missing parts or incorrect routing of straps. Other are outdated, have been involved in a crash or were recalled by the manufacturer.

With this in mind, CCATS is conducting its sixth annual Old, Used, Borrowed and Abused Child Safety Seat Round-up throughout February.

The goal of the round-up is to collect used and potentially dangerous seats so they cannot be reused. In 1996, the round-up accumulated a mountain of more than 650 safety seats. The hope is to significantly increase that number in 1997. The round-up will culminate in a ceremonial crushing in downtown Norfolk on March 5, when a front loader will roll over the seats.

The old seats can be turned in at any AAA of Tidewater location and all DMV customer service centers in February. As an incentive, participants will receive a \$5 cash reward courtesy of the Safe Kids Coalition of Hampton Roads.

Finally, if you cannot afford a new child safety seat, several programs across the state offer free or discounted ones. For more information, call the Virginia Department of Transportation at 363-3930, or CCATS at 498-2562. And remember, buckle up the little ones.

Here we go again

Because things change so fast as legislators rush to meet self-imposed deadlines, accurate coverage of assembly action is difficult now. Like Lazarus, dead bills arise while those in seemingly robust health suddenly drop dead.

In truth, the modern General Assembly has a small number of bills to give mature consideration to the more than 2,500 proposals routinely placed before it. The good news is most are of scant importance or too poorly prepared by their sponsors to be taken seriously. Still, there are a few issues of real importance being considered in Richmond, though sharp differences between conservatives and liberals seem more likely to produce a stand-off.

Back and beaten again. For the fourth year in a row, the House Education Committee defeated a bill offered by Del. Philip Hamilton, R-Newport News, to allow Virginia school boards to approve a modest experiment in "charter" schools.

It failed on an 11-11 vote with most Democrats voting no. Despite wide coverage of the issue since 1992 and its adoption by numerous states, it's doubtful many Virginians know or care much about charters as competitors to regular public schools.

The idea is simple, though in my opinion flawed. But it isn't so flawed or so radical that it ought not to be given a trial here. Maybe it will lead to vouchers that parents can redeem at truly private schools. But charters aren't private schools and charge no fees.

Under the terms of Hamilton's bill, they would be public schools "chartered" by a local school board and answerable to it for the expenditure of public funds. Supposedly, they will have greater freedom from central-office supervision to develop innovative programs and rise or fall on their ability to satisfy parents.

Not what the governor wanted. Gov. George Allen has pushed legislation to allow the state to grant charters where local boards refuse to do so.

But Davies doesn't work for the governor or the legislature. He is hired by the council, which is appointed by the governor. Because those terms are staggered, Allen appoints only last year achieved a majority. Depending on your point of view, the new majority either started taking its oversight role seriously or was just a bunch of soreheads spoiling for a fight.

do so. If you believe in charters, that makes sense. After all, how many local boards will be pleased to admit some outside group can do a better job running a school than the board's own professional staff.

But Hamilton's bill left the decision to grant a charter entirely in the hands of each local board, which could approve no more than two. It also barred religious groups from receiving a charter and specified that only teachers certified by the state could be employed in the classroom.

None of these concessions satisfied opponents and won't until voters take more interest in breaking the near-monopoly of students and resources now held by public schools. It will come, but not for awhile.

In truth, the modern General Assembly hasn't enough time to give mature consideration to the more than 2,500 proposals routinely placed before it.

The Democrats' revenge. The State Council of Higher Education was created decades ago in the hope it would serve as an honest broker between the state's largely independent public colleges and the legislature. That is, the colleges would always ask for the moon and the council would say what was reasonable.

The council's long-serving director, Dr. Gordon Davies, is something of a prickly pear but he has managed to stay in the good graces of senior legislators. That is mildly surprising given the rapid increase in tuition charges and operating costs at the colleges.

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The solution? The House Education Committee on a party-line vote reported a bill sponsored by Del. Alan Diamondstein, D-Newport News, to disband the present council. A new council would be created in which five of the 11 members would be elected by the General Assembly. Democrats said the bill was needed because discord on the council had caused the legislature to distrust its advice. A more likely reason is to save Davies' job, or at least to reassert his customary role as major-domo.

While Democrats certainly have the votes to get Diamondstein's bill through the House, and maybe the Senate as well, they haven't enough to override Allen's veto. A better solution might be to abolish the council and let the governor's budget staff and those employed by the assembly's money committees reach their own conclusions on requests from state colleges. They're doing it anyway.

Dillard's revenge. The last authentic Hilltop Republican in the House is that exemplar of good breeding and fine manners, Del. Jim Dillard of Fairfax. A retired public-school teacher and certified moderator, he hasn't been pleased to see the GOP always at odds with educators. Nor is he pleased by new accreditation standards Allen's Board of Education is set to impose on the public schools. Dillard's bill, reported from committee on an 18-3 vote, would give the General Assembly "ultimate authority" over accreditation.

A separate measure would delay all changes in academic and personnel mandates related to school accreditation until after July 1, 1998. By that time, some appointees of the next governor to the Board of Education will have taken their seats.

In opposing these bills, state Superintendent of Public Instruction Richard LaPointe said, "It's no secret there's a vocal minority that attempted to eliminate the establishment of higher academic standards and accountability."

Considering the lopsided vote in committee, it's possible these bills of dubious constitutionality limiting the ability of the Board of Education to supervise the schools will pass. But the governor's veto is even more likely to stick. So much for all the kinder, gentler talk that began this session.

Ray Garland, a former member of the Virginia General Assembly, is a syndicated columnist.

It's so long to Old Virginny? What next?

A couple of years ago when former Virginia governor Doug ("The Happy Wanderer") Wilder attempted to do away with "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny" as the state song, I agreed at the time that it should be done. Now the General Assembly has finished the job.

I said at the time that I could understand how some of the words could be offensive to some, but it still is a beautiful song, especially the melody. I have sung it for many years and never dreamed that it would someday vanish from the face of the earth. But time moves on, and the world has turned over many times since James A. Bland, a brilliant and talented black composer, wrote the song in 1870. He also wrote "In the Evening By the Moonlight," "O Dem Golden Slippers," "Hand Me Down My Walking Cane" and many others. He was a true genius in every sense of the word.

There are some in Florida who also want to change their state song, "Old Folks at Home," which was written by Stephen Foster. Perhaps "See You Later Alligator" would suit them better. Since so many state songs are so offensive to so many, maybe the abolishment of all state songs would be politically correct.

To carry it further, the National Anthem has been abused and misusing for so long that perhaps it too has outlived its purpose. I can remember the time that, whenever I heard it, the hairs on the back of my neck stood up. I would always drop a tear or two, but no more. When it is sung by today's "artists" (if you can call them that), I can hardly recognize it. It really has no meaning for me anymore. They can change it to "I Surrender Dear" for all I care.

Drug-dazed rock singers, rappers, and smart alecks like Rosanne have desecrated the National Anthem just the same as those who spit and urinate on the flag. But then, why should we be surprised? This has been coming for a long time. Patriotism is a word seldom used anymore.

We are living in the times of Madonna, Michael Jackson, O.J. Simpson, Snappy Dogg and heaven forbid, Dennis Rodman and Bill Clinton. What more can you expect?

A Virginia state senator said recently that she attended a gathering where the state songs were being played when "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny" was played everyone sat down and was embarrassed.

I know just how she felt. I have the same feeling when I hear the National Anthem assaulted by some drug-crazed hippie who sounds as if he is trying to pass a kidney stone with burps on it, and have no idea what it means.

Perhaps after all of the state songs have been changed or deleted and the National Anthem abolished, we can then get around to changing the flag. That's next. Just charge it to the madness of the times.

Welcome to the real world.

The Virginia Beach Sun

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Commonwealth Commentary

By Ray Garland, columnist

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Checkbook proves a wieldy weapon in battle of the sexes

Money makes the world go 'round, I've often heard, but it also makes for many a divorce.

I'm trying to steer clear of that route. If there's ever a bone of contention in marriage, it's money. Housework runs a close second, if not ahead by a nose. I've got the latter licked (I hope), but the matter of finances is

another story.

Ever since Evan and I traded "I do's" two years ago, life has been a constant battle of the checkbook. That happens when two separate entities, each quite content with their own checking accounts and methods of bill payment, decide to join forces. Sometimes I think newlyweds ought to sign a binding agreement, or at least take an oath, that says something to the effect of "I'll checkbook battle do we part." Maybe a prenuptial agreement that gives one spouse custody of the checkbook. Something. Anything!

Evan and I started pondering the matter of who'd control the checkbook a few months before we wed. We decided that I would close my bank account, seeing that that particular institution was sucking me dry with enormous checking fees anyway. My name would be added to the account at its credit union and everything would be hunky dory, right?

Wrong. Being an "independent" young woman, I keenly felt the loss of the checkbook in my purse. When I wanted to go impulse shopping, it

was either use a credit card or get enough cash from the ATM for my spree. Neither worked very well. After much haggling — and since I do all the household shopping anyway — we decided that I would carry the checkbook. When Evan wanted it, he would ask me.

That worked OK for a while, until he conveniently started "forgetting" to return the checkbook to my purse. Another problem? He is prone to forgetting to write down balances and amounts for checks he's written. "I can keep a running balance in my head" is his philosophy.

When we finally started getting checks with carbons, so we could see how much each check was, the problem appeared ironed out.

But Murphy's Law dictates that when one problem is solved, another arises.

The next was Evan's bill-paying "techniques." In short, his idea is to wait until the last possible moment.

When I was single, I kept a ledger and paid each bill as it came in. Presenting the idea of a written ledger about six months after we were wed, Evan scoffed.

"You can do that on the computer!" he assured. "It's much easier."

Me? I'm old fashioned. I like putting things on paper. Besides, fancy computer programs confuse me. So we decided Evan would continue with the bill-paying duties, although I became more frequent with my nagging to get them out earlier.

But when Evan left recently for a two-week business trip, I was charged with paying the bills.

What power! What fun! I felt like my old self again as I settled down with the bill basket and began sorting through the envelopes from AT&T, Virginia Power, Mastercard, Leggett's and a myriad other places each wanting a chunk of my hard-earned money.

Twelve checks later, though, I felt particularly drained as I licked the last stamp and pasted it onto the envelope. I'd shelled out a total of \$868, which doesn't even include a car payment or anything spectacular like that. Just plain, old bills.

It occurred to me that when I was single there just weren't this many bills. Surely not. And I sure wasn't writing car telephone payments for \$136!

"No wonder Evan hates paying the bills," I said to myself. "You feel like you've been mugged afterward!"

Guess I'm just out of practice, or else my bill-paying days of "bachelorette-dom" were much milder.

Whatever the case, there's no escaping the gloomy fact that money does make it world go round. Bills must be paid, and checkbook haggling will continue. It's what makes marriages so challenging and, yes, often grounds for divorce.

Oh, to find some common ground on money! Unfortunately, there is no peaceful retreat. It's just more fuel in the battle of the sexes — and I'm hoping for a truce!

The Virginia Beach Sun Deadlines

News deadlines for The Virginia Beach Sun are Monday at 5 p.m. for the upcoming Friday's issue.

- ✓ Articles must be legible, preferably typed, double-spaced on standard-sized paper.
- ✓ Pictures must be sharp, clear and accompanied with complete information.
- ✓ News may be brought or mailed in and should include the name and telephone numbers of the person submitting it.

- ✓ The Virginia Beach Sun welcomes and encourages letters from its readers on topics of general interest.
- ✓ All letters must carry the name and address of writer for verification.
- ✓ Letters should be addressed to: Editor, The Virginia Beach Sun, 138 South Rosemont Road, Suite 209, Virginia Beach, Va. 23452. Phone: 486-3430.

Public safety means partnership of people

Community policing has many facets and is very broad in its application; however, the underlying philosophy is one of a partnership in public safety between the people and

police. We in the city of Virginia Beach have facilitated the creation of Neighborhood Advisory Councils, Citizen Advisory Committees, targeted neighborhoods, and thereby have enhanced a more soluble relationship between the police and the citizenry.

The Mayor's Report
Mayor Meyra Oberdorf

There is valuable dialogue among and between the attendees of these ongoing entities and the understanding between us has been increased.

These factors notwithstanding, there continues to be a need for a greater knowledge by the public of how, why, where and when the police do what they do. By acquainting private citizens with the nature of police work and its organization, channels of communication become more open and clear. When people understand the police function generally, myths are dispelled and what seems to be illogical behavior by police, in the eyes of the public, becomes very appropriate.

To enhance our abilities in the policing process, we are initiating the Citizen's Police Academy in our city, so that there is a true "sharing" of the responsibility for public safety, between our police and our citizens.

Goals end objectives of the Citizen's Police Academy of Virginia Beach are:

- To educate annually 80 citizens concerning the organizational structure of the Virginia Beach Police Department, the functions of police officers in Virginia Beach and the role of citizens in maintaining public safety in Virginia Beach.

- To empower annually 80 participants to service other citizens as speakers, administrators of crime prevention programs and volunteers with the criminal justice system.

In this training/educational program, we hope to influence responsible citizens, who can reach out in the community, conveying a new perception of what public safety is and those channels within the parameters of the law — through which police provide their services.

The Citizen's Police Academy will be an effective tool that will assist the public in gaining an appreciation for the job the police do, while the public is educated in their methodology. While graduates of the academy will

not be certified for any type of police work, they will have gained a general knowledge of police work and the overall operation of our police department.

Criteria of Application Solicitation: The CPA/VB shall be open to citizens of the city of Virginia Beach who are at least 18 years of age. The academy will be promoted through the media; television, radio and newspaper prior to its beginning, two times a year.

Two city employees who voluntarily attended the session ending in December both were excited about completing this nine-week program. Thirty-seven people attended this program, meeting weekly for three hours.

In this training/educational program, we hope to influence responsible citizens, who can reach out in the community, conveying a new perception of what public safety is and those channels within the parameters of the law — through which police provide their services.

Although each person might have a different favorite subject, it was agreed that learning about SWAT procedures, forensic techniques and the opportunity to accompany an officer during his shift for a police ride-along were some of the favorites. However, the other subjects: crime prevention, arrest procedures, domestic violence and drug investigation were also of special interest.

Students attending the classes reported that the course was truly an eye-opener into the world of police work which only added to their admiration for these public safety protectors. The next session of the Citizen's Police Academy will start in February, and if you are interested in enrolling for the class or if you just want additional information, call 563-1006.

Deborah Downing, Virginia Beach Police Department DARE Unit, and Deborah Schell, Department of Public Information, contributed to this article.

Beach museum, visitor development win accolade

Recipients in international ad competition

The Virginia Marine Science Museum and the city of Virginia Beach Department of Convention and Visitor Development won Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards in the prestigious 1996 Adria Advertising/International Travel Competition.

The awards honored tourism advertising campaigns for Virginia Beach created by Barker Campbell and Farley of Virginia Beach. More than 1,500 entries were submitted from a record 46 countries.

The awards are awarded to honor and showcase the best in hospitality and travel advertising, marketing materials and public relations and are sponsored by the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International (HMSAI).

In the "Single Entry" category, the Virginia Marine Science Museum won the Adria Gold award for its IMAX 3D Theater print ad. The ad "This Is a Theater. This is an IMAX 3D Theater" cleverly depicts the variances between viewing an ordinary movie and IMAX 3D viewing. Walt Taylor was the art director and Scott Mackey, the copywriter.

The Adria Silver and the Bronze also went to the Virginia Marine Science Museum for the "Come See Virginia Beach's Other Ocean" and "You'll Never Look at Museums The Same Way Again"

print ads combining stunning marine life photography with fresh, innovative copy describing new exhibits in the museum's recent \$35-million expansion.

Copy writing was by Scott Mackey; Walt Taylor was art director.

In the "Complete Campaign" category, the Adria Silver award went to "Family Fun Package" — a cooperative effort to promote regional tourism developed by Barker Campbell and Farley for Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, Norfolk, Hampton, Virginia Beach and the Virginia Marine Science Museum. This regional vacation promotion included commercials in French and English and direct mail, generating more than \$1 million in bookings.

Also in the "Complete Campaign" category, the Virginia Beach Department of Convention and Visitor Development won the Bronze award for its promotion of "The New Virginia Beach" — a combination consisting of a sleekly designed brochure, TV spots and a print ad campaign. Copywriters were Sue Fay, Scott Mackey, Ellen McBride and Bruce Mansfield, who is also Barker Campbell and Farley's creative director. Art direction was by Walt Taylor, Freda Shaver and Kathy Tobin.

This is the second year running that Barker Campbell and Farley has won Adria Awards for the city of Virginia Beach.

Barker Campbell and Farley is a \$30 million full-service advertising and public relations agency serving local, regional and national clients in a variety of industries.

Up close and personal

Pam Ford: Computing success!

By VICTORIA HECHT

Sun Editor

Pam Ford is uncommonly modest about the accomplishments she's achieved since joining the Virginia Beach Public Information Office in 1987.

"I'm like a jack-of-all-trades, master of none," she jokes, her face lighting up with a broad smile.

But Ford's efforts haven't gone unnoticed by others. In recognition for her outstanding contributions to fulfilling the city's mission, the microcomputer systems analyst was recently inducted into the Employee Hall of Fame.

Among her accomplishments, Ford has implemented Beach-Line, an electronic bulletin board, "faceless telephone" located around the Municipal Complex for citizen assistance, and the Virginia Beach Internet Website. She is credited with being the city's driving force on the "Information Superhighway" and its front line to changing technology.

"A lot of what I do is researching new technology to communicate with the public," she explained.

"We've been communicating electronically with the citizens since 1988, when I started an electronic bulletin board with one little computer. It was all text information with no graphics, no pictures, in an aw — straight DOS-text file, all that boring stuff. But it was the only one in the region," Ford said proudly. "No one ever had one until the Internet came around."

Beach-Line, a recorded phone system offering 600 recorded messages about services and events, debuted in 1992 under Ford's guidance. It now receives more than 60,000 calls per month.

Keeping Virginia Beach's citizens up to date is no small job.

"Setting up all these systems — researching, purchasing, installing, troubleshooting and managing them — is a major undertaking," Ford continued. "Once you create a system and make it available to the public, you have to stay on top of it."

One of Ford's most recent — and perhaps most challenging — undertakings was Virginia Beach's homepage on the World Wide Web. Leading the design team, the homepage is a guide for anyone who wants to "surf" the city's offerings without ever leaving their computer. It was recognized as Site of the Week by Greater Hampton Roads.

Surprisingly, Ford is not from a computer background. The long-time Virginia Beach resident, who graduated from Old Dominion University in 1979, majored in physical education. Business and some computer skills were learned during her eight years at General Electric Credit Corp. before joining the city.

"Actually, when I started this job 10 years ago, I didn't have the title that I have now. Microcomputer systems analyst has evolved over my desire to pursue technology — to learn about the different types and implement them. My job when I started out, I think, was office supervisor."

To keep abreast with communications technologies, which she says is the job's greatest challenge, Ford takes advantage of city training opportunities and subscribes to several trade publications. In 1996 alone, she took several computer courses including Internet Web Page Design and Install/Support/Network Windows 95.

Despite all this, Ford swears she isn't a computer nerd who stays hooked up to the Internet during her free time. She's never really experimented with computer games,



preferring instead to work up a good sweat at the gym.

"I don't even have Internet access at home," she noted.

Ford's latest challenge is membership in Sertoma By The Bay, a civic organization that supports battered women's shelters and Samaritan House. She is a charter member.

Name: Pamela Patrice Ford.

What brought you to this area: I'm a local. I was actually born in Norfolk, but have lived in Virginia Beach since the age of 5.

Hometown: Virginia Beach.

Birthdate: Sept. 28, 1957. Oh no...the BIG 4-0!

Nickname: None.

Occupation: Microcomputer Systems Analyst, Virginia Beach Public Information Office.

Marital Status: Happily married for 14 years to "Chick."

Children: None.

Favorite movies: "Patriot Games" and "Beaches."

Magazines I read regularly: Whatever clothing manufacturer has me on their list, I get 'em!

Favorite authors: When I read, it's always computer-related. Boring, huh?

Favorite night out on the town: Food, drinks and fun with friends.

Favorite restaurant: Beach Pub.

Favorite meal and beverage: Seafood with ice cold suds.

What most people don't know

about me: My life's an "open book." I'd rather something they don't know, it's because I don't want them to know.

Best thing about myself: Committed to family, to friends, to work.

Worst habit: Impulse buying.

Pets: Black and white springer spaniel, "Ace of Spades."

Ideal vacation: Anyplace warm.

Hobbies: Going to the gym and the beach.

Pet peeves: Clutter (everything has to be in "its place") and those who sweat "the small stuff."

First job: Housekeeping at the T-Bird Hotel on 35th Street.

Worst job: Never had one I didn't like in some way or another.

Favorite sports team: Dallas Cowboys.

Favorite musicians: I like it all. I mostly listen to country, but like the old and new artists as well.

Most embarrassing moment: Telling a joke at a party and nobody laughed!

I would like my epitaph to read: "She worked hard and played hard."

If I received \$1 million: Whatever I said would probably change once I had the money.

If I had 10 minutes on national television: I'd try to explain to teenagers how important an education is to shaping their future...mentally, physically, socially and financially.

People's Law School empowers public

By ABBIE BALSMEIER

Sun Intern

Finally, a law school that doesn't require passage of the bar exam.

In fact, this school doesn't have tests at all.

And, best of all, this law school will only cost you \$25.

It's called The People's Law School, but it doesn't produce new lawyers.

The only products of this law school are more knowledgeable citizens.

"We have to educate ourselves," Rick Madrid, a student in the course said.

Students at the People's Law School receive an adequate education, though.

"We have the best lawyers in Hampton Roads," bragged Mariska Breland, the account executive at The Joel Rubin Agency.

The Joel Rubin Agency has publicized and help organize the school for nearly three years.

The school, sponsored by the law firm of Breit, Drescher, Breit, has attracted around 80 to 100 area citizens and many well-known lawyers for each session over the last three years.

"It's a chance to listen to high-profile attorneys," Sara Jo Rubin, co-owner and office manager of The Joel Rubin Agency, said.

Among individuals who have

been on the guest list over the last three years include, prosecuting lawyers, defense lawyers, police investigators and certified mediators.

The People's Law School is currently in its winter session. The first class was Jan. 23. The six-week course is also offered in the spring and fall.

At it's first class of the winter session, students listened to Chuck Griffith Jr., a Norfolk commonwealth attorney.

He spoke about the evenings designated topic, victim's rights. More specifically, though, he told of his experiences as a prosecutor and the difficulties and technicalities of dealing with victims, victims' families and witnesses.

Each class meeting is divided into two parts. After Griffith's 30-minute lecture, students got a chance to address a panel.

The panel included Griffith and two other lawyers from the area. They were Nancy Brock, Response Sexual Assault Support Service, and Jim Lewis, Rabinowitz, Rafal, Swartz, Taffierio and Gilbert.

He answered a variety of questions pertaining to victim's rights.

Madrid, who has already taken the course, said he thinks the

school picks quality people for the panels.

"The panels they've brought in here are very educated," Madrid said.

Rubin said people who take the course more than once are not rare. "We have a lot of repeat students. I know many of the repeats by name," Rubin said.

Nelda and Bill Stallings of Norfolk are students in the course and have been since the school's beginning.

They said they felt the course is so important and helpful it should be a required class for everyone.

"It covers subjects that are of value to the general public."

"The main thing it does...it's you know who the specialists are in certain fields," Nelda said.

She said they have used the services of several different

lecturers and panelists who have spoken at The People's Law School.

"It beats going to the yellow pages," Bill joked.

Sandra Wilson of Portsmouth attended the Jan. 23 meeting for her husband who could not go to that evening.

She said her husband, a high school teacher, has taken the course three times before and keeps returning so he can learn more.

Wilson said it helps him teach his class.

The course is designed for repeat students like her husband.

Each session covers different subjects and invites different speakers so that repeat students never stop learning.

Rubin and Breland said the language of the course book and speakers are easy for anyone to understand.

"We try never to use any jargon...We write the book simply," Breland said.

Rubin said she's seen a variety of people take the course for many different reasons.

She said individuals who have taken the course include senior citizens, aspiring lawyers, high school students, college students, police officers and journalists.

The school has prompted some people to make big changes in their lives, Rubin said.

"We've had people tell they've made decisions to write wills," she said.

Breland and Rubin said they credit the school's effectiveness partly to the approachability of the speakers.

They said this makes students more comfortable in the class.

"The student's appreciate being treated professionally," Rubin said.

THE ARTS

Chrysler celebrates Black History Month

The Chrysler Museum of Art and its Historic Houses invite you to join them as they celebrate Black History Month in February.

The history, accomplishments and art of Africa and African-Americans have been woven into the museum's Education Department programming for more than two decades and African-American artists entertain and delight Family Fun audiences throughout the year. Because February is Black history month, such programming is expanded and brought into sharper focus.

■ Theatre IV presents "Songs From The Soul" for two performances on Sunday, Feb. 9, at 2 and 3:30 p.m. in the Museum Theatre. This rousing and inspiring original musical explores the historical roots and origins of African-American music as we have come to know it in a chronological collage that includes folk songs, work songs, jazz, blues, R & B, Motown, Hip Hop and Rap.

The Richmond-based Theatre IV has received recognition for excellence from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Lila Wallace-Readers Digest New Works for Young Audiences and the Governor's Award, among others. Theatre IV will also present 16 performances in February of Songs from the Soul to a total of approximately 4,000 students fourth through 12 grade.

■ "Play It With Poetry" by Jack Jackson, The popular performance artist with Young Audiences of Virginia will perform on Saturday, Feb. 16 at 2 p.m. in the Museum Theatre. Igniting the fires of our

imaginations, Jackson breathes new life into the words of great poets like Langston Hughes when he brings his colorful and mesmerizing interpretation of African-American writers and poets to the museum's stage. Call 664-6268 for reservations or further information.

■ The culture of Africa and the history and aesthetics of African art can be explored through a number of museum-based programs. The Chrysler Museum's permanent African collection is used almost daily during the school year as an important part of the Ancient Worlds tour.

Additionally, an outreach program based upon the gift of original art and everyday objects from the Kuba people of Zaïre is newly available. The Outreach Education Program was researched and designed by contract educators Trish Pfeiffer and Ellen Henry. Call 664-268 for further information.

■ Appeal to this Age: Photography of the Civil Rights Movement, 1954-1968 will be on display through March 2. This extraordinary series of images will be augmented by thought provoking classroom materials, exhibition tours and activities. Both Chrysler docents and volunteers from the community will help to provide a greater understanding of this exhibit.

During Black History Month — and throughout the entire year — the Chrysler's Historic Houses will offer two special outreach programs which focus on African-American history as it relates specifically

to Hampton Roads. In each, the performers portray actual people in dress, speech and mannerisms. This performance medium is very powerful, especially for school audiences.

The 18th-century free black laundress is portrayed by Christin Griffith, a graduate of Dartmouth college with a degree in African-American Studies. Griffith brings the historical Nancy Johnson to life in her performance as she discusses the social history and relations of the day. Through various props and artifacts, Johnson tells us about life in Norfolk as a free black professional. She discusses the social history and relations of the day and the mechanics of her profession in early America.

The indentured servant program is also offered through the Historic Houses during Black History Month. William Balderson portrays James Kemp, a 17th-century indentured servant. Kemp discusses the differences between slavery and indentured servitude and also talks about some of the similarities as well. This program is also interactive and hands-on.

Both Living History outreach programs will travel to school classrooms or perform at one of our Historic Houses. These programs were developed in conjunction with the Norfolk Public School System and conforms to both local and state Standard as of Learning Objectives. They have also served adult audiences as well.

These two Living History programs comprise but a very small part of the acclaimed Heritage Education Program

developed at the Historic Houses nine years ago.

Consisting of tours, hands-on programs and an extensive classroom outreach program, the entire program serves more than 50,000 students each year in Norfolk, Virginia, Beach, Chesapeake, Portsmouth and Suffolk. Approximately half of that number is served through outreach programs. These programs include eight Living History programs and five different artifact programs.

The Living History programs include the indentured servant; the 18th-century laundress; a Jamestown Settler; a War of 1812 recruiting officer; a Revolutionary War soldier; a 19th-century Sea Captain; a 19th-century Union Sailor before the U.S.S. Monitor and a Civil War Soldier. Artifact outreach programs are presented to the schools by a costumed historic interpreter and cover the following topics: Fiber Arts; 17th-Century Music; Daily Life in Early America; and, Costumes and Historical documents.

The programs at the Historic Houses have grown and developed over the years as a result of aggressive marketing to area schools and the help of a very active Volunteer Teacher Council comprised of area teachers. Norfolk's Gifted and Talented Program has also played a major role in testing the program before it is offered to the school community at large. With continued cooperation from area schools the Heritage Education Program will continue to grow and expand.

D'ART showcases artists

The D'ART Center takes great pride in the fact that multicultural artists are showcased throughout the year at the center.

However, because February is designated as the month our nation celebrates the accomplishments and heritage of African-Americans, the center has coordinated weekend demonstrations where patrons may meet several Hampton Roads black artists as they continue a work in progress.

In addition to showcasing the weekend artists, Ricardo Alma of Williamsburg and Persis Jennings, Trudy Gaba and Maizelle Brown of Norfolk will have work displayed.

The following artists will be at work in the atrium at the center:

■ Saturday, Feb. 8, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Teresa Brown from Chesapeake works with handmade paper and found objects; 1 - 3 p.m., Clayton Singleton from Norfolk

portraiture painter.

■ Sunday, Feb. 9, 1 - 3 p.m., Danny Dols from Virginia Beach doing airbrushing.

■ Saturday, Feb. 15, 1 - 3 p.m., Juanita Mincey from Hampton works with colored pencils.

■ Sunday, Feb. 16, 2 - 4 p.m., Robin Hodges potter and mixed media artist from Norfolk.

■ Saturday, Feb. 22, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Betty Jo Woodhouse from Virginia Beach portraiture painter.

■ Sunday, Feb. 23, 1 - 3 p.m., Sidney Lilly charcoal artist from the Peninsula.

The D'ART Center, a workspace/studio/gallery located in downtown Norfolk at 125 College Place, is open Tuesday through Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on a Sunday 1 - 5 p.m. There is no price for admission.

For additional information, call 625-4211.

Museum names director

The Chrysler Museum of Art has announced the selection of Dr. William J. Hennessey as its new director.

With 25 years of experience in all facets of the museum profession, he is currently professor of the University of Michigan Museum of Art, where he has served since 1990. Hennessey's background includes directorships at the University of Kentucky Art Museum in Lexington and the Vassar College Art Gallery in New York.

Anticipating the beginning of his tenure at the museum in March, he stated, "The Chrysler is an extraordinary institution

with an outstanding collection and I look forward with great enthusiasm to working with the trustees and staff to make it an even more exciting and dynamic place. My family and I can't wait to join this wonderful community."

As a widely published author and lecturer possessing an exceptional academic and international background, Hennessey has taught art history at the university level and, along with teaching assignments in Italy and Britain, has regularly conducted study tours in both Europe and Asia.

15 from 1 - 5 p.m.

Appointments may be made by calling 366-5809. Be prepared to perform a musical piece and a monologue. All positions are paid.

ARTS BRIEFS

The Hurrah Players Family Theatre Company will present "Charlotte's Web" at the Oscar Smith Theatre in Chesapeake on Saturday, Feb. 22 at 3 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 23 at 3 p.m.

This exciting new musical version of "Charlotte's Web" brings a new dimension to E.B. White's beloved classic. With new music by Charles, Srouse, the composer of the Broadway hit "Annie," "Charlotte's Web" is directed by High Copeland, with musical direction by Folly Martin. Tickets are \$8 and are reserved seats. Group rates are available. Call 623-7418 for more information and reservations.

Dominion Theatre at the Founders Inn will hold auditions by appointment only for its next production, "Schoolhouse Rock Live," Feb. 13 and 15. Performers needed are three males and three females, multi-racial, ages 18 to 35.

"Schoolhouse Rock Live" is a musical comedy based on the hit ABC cartoon series and features songs such as "Conjunction Junction" and "My Hero Zero." Auditions will be held at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach, Feb. 13 from 7 - 10 p.m. and Feb.

The Actors' Theatre will present "The God of Isaac," a comedy by James Sherman. The hilarious and heartwarming play tells the story of Isaac Adams, a young man in search of his spiritual identity. Various characters that he encounters, in a series of funny and touching scenes offer a confounding array of possible positions to adopt.

"The God of Isaac" opens at The Actors' Theatre nestled inside Pembroke Mall (next to Profit's) Feb. 21 - March 16. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Sundays. Ticket prices are \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, military and full-time students, and \$5 children 12 and under.

Call 557-0397 for reservations.

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Enjoy 'Wine by Design' at VCCA annual fund-raising arts gala

Art & Co., a group of young professionals who serve as a volunteer arm of the Virginia Center for Contemporary Art (VCCA), will host its popular annual fund-raiser, "Wine By Design '97," Friday, Feb. 28, from 6:30 - 10 p.m. at the VCCA.

Event organizers expect a sell-out crowd to gather at the center for music, food, samples of international wines, a wine label art competition and a silent auction. All proceeds from the event will benefit the VCCA.

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a presentation by wine connoisseur John Keating. At 7 p.m., volunteers and representatives from Tri-Cities, Broudy-Kantor and Associated wine distributors will begin serving samples of 30 international wines.

Tammy Gardner, Michael Mulder and Larry Emmanuel will provide musical entertainment and guests can

also enjoy a buffet of light hors d'oeuvres courtesy of Doughtie's Foods, Harris Teeter and Mahi Mahi's restaurant. Corporate and media sponsors of the event include WFOG and 94.9 The Point, Merrill Lynch, Virginia Beach Plastic Surgery and Port Folio Magazine.

Advance tickets are \$18 for Art & Co. members, \$20 for VCCA members and \$22 for non-members, available at Artfix Gallery at Hilltop and in Ghent, East of Napa in the Rose Hall Shops and at the VCCA.

On the day of the event, tickets will only be available at the VCCA for \$28.

The Virginia Center for Contemporary Art, formerly the Virginia Beach Center for the Arts, is located at 2200 Parks Ave. in Virginia Beach at the westbound entrance to Route 44. For more information, call 425-0000.

Virginia Stage Associates offers walk-on role raffle

The Virginia Stage Associates are raffling off three walk-on roles in the upcoming Virginia Stage Company's production of "Twelfth Night" at the historic Wells Theatre.

A once in a lifetime opportunity, each winner will participate in a rehearsal and receive a costume fitting before appearing in one evening's performance of the play. His or her name will also be featured that night on the theater's marquee.

Tickets to the raffle are five dollars and are available at each performance of Virginia Stage Company's current production of

"Terra Nova," the Virginia Stage Associates will donate all proceeds to support the programs of Hampton Roads' premier professional theater company including VSC's performances for primary and secondary school students.

Virginia Stage Associates is a group of volunteers who provide services for the Virginia Stage Company. In addition to their fund raising activities, the group also furnishes ushers for all the productions, provides administrative and backstage support and provides hospitality services to the casts and crews of each production.

WAVY-TV anchor narrates Army Concert Band show

Don Roberts, morning news anchorman at WAVY-TV, will be the program narrator for the U.S. Continental Army Concert Band's African-American Heritage Celebration performance at Fort Monroe starting at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 20 at the post theater.

Roberts will narrate the same program with the band at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 21 at Fort Eustis's Jacobs Theatre.

The performances, featuring famous African-American composers, are free to the public and tickets are not required.

Included in the concert will be

Scott Joplin's "The Entertainer," William Grant Still's "Little Red Schoolhouse" and "Freedom Road" by J. Curnow. The Resolute Ensemble, a vocal quartet from Fort Eustis' 7th Transportation Group, will also be featured.

Capt. Andrew J. Esch, executive officer for the Continental Army Band, will be the primary conductor for both concerts. The commander of the band is Maj. Thomas H. Palmatier.

For more information, call 727-4052.

Arts Center retrospective honors E. Ann Stokes

The Arts Center of the Portsmouth Museums presents a retrospective of local artist E. Ann Stokes' work Feb. 7 through March 9.

An artist's lecture is also planned for March 2 at 2 p.m.

Stokes is a native of Portsmouth and has long been appreciated for her work in the community, particularly in the arts.

She is a retired art teacher, the former art supervisor of the Portsmouth Public Schools and the author of three guides for art educators. She has served the Hampton Roads art community in numerous capacities including her service on Portsmouth's Museum and Fine Arts Commission, the Board of the Hermitage Museum Auxiliary and The Chrysler Museum's Docent Council among others.

Stokes has shown extensively throughout Virginia and the Southeast. Some of her venues include The Chrysler Museum, Norfolk; The Hermitage Museum, Norfolk; The Atlanta Art Museum, Atlanta; The Museum of Arts and Science, Macon, Ga.; and, The Meadow's Museum in Shreveport, La. She has also participated in a

traveling show which took her work as far as Daytona Beach, Fla. Stokes said of her work, "The process of painting gives me a great deal of pleasure I want each of my paintings to show individuality and to incorporate strength, magic and spontaneity. I paint from the heart and strive for structure and design along with casual abandon — it is a tough balance."

The Arts Center is located in the historic 1846 Courthouse on the corner of Court and High streets in Old Towne Portsmouth and is accessible to the disabled. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 - 5 p.m. For further information on exhibits, workshops and lectures, contact Gayle Paul or Cooper Carter at 393-8543 or 393-8983.

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EDUCATION

Amateur radio enthusiasts 'ham' it up for fun

By M.J. KNOBLOCK

Sun Correspondent
Ham radio operators are a mysterious bunch.

Most people don't understand their fascination with communication. But a group of children at Windsor Oaks Elementary School are building a fascination of their own with the hobby under the auspices of principal Ed Gibbs.

"Amateur radio is a hobby," Gibbs explained.

"It's a first step hobby for a lot of people for employment in many fields, such as engineering and technical work. Our hobby basically involves communication technology training and education. What we do is communicate with each other at long distances and short distances."

Amateur radio's popularity is coming back.

Perhaps because it was recently featured in the movie "Independence Day." When the world's communication systems broke down, the use of Morse code saved the day.

Gibbs, an operator himself, explained that anyone, regardless of age, can participate in amateur radio if they can meet the standards set by the Federal Communications Commission. Tests sanctioned by the FCC consist of different levels, allowing amateur radio operation at different levels.

"We believe children are amenable to learning amateur radio," said Gibbs. "We have declamation in Virginia Beach of children as young as 7 learning amateur radio and declamation in the U.S. of children as young as 5 learning amateur radio."

As a result, Gibbs decided to present his hobby to eight hand-picked fourth-graders at the school. All of them are curious, well-rounded students that are math- and science-oriented. Not all of them are "A" students, but all of them are enthusiastic about the club.

"We can only train a small

number of kids at one time because the principles are so difficult, so specific," said Gibbs, who refers to the club by its nickname, "Spike's Radio Club," dubbed after the school's dragon mascot, Spike.

"They like it because kids like the club atmosphere, they're part of a group," Gibbs explained. "They have adult mentors. They're learning things. They love to learn."

The children are also enjoying taking what they learn home with them. Gibbs said the children—mostly ages 8 and 9—are discussing FCC regulations with their parents.

"They are learning and using the Morse code alphabet."

"They feel smart," Gibbs smiled.

"They feel like they know something other people don't know. Amateur radio people are

looked at as people that know something other people don't. But that's a misnomer, because people can get (their license) at any age."

Gibbs hopes to have the group licensed at the first of three FCC communicating fields, novice, by May or June.

"I really get a charge out of working with children and teaching them," said Gibbs. "Plus, it's my hobby and I'm passing that on."

Gibbs is getting some help from other local ham radio operators at Spike's Radio Club meetings every Friday after school.

Joe Hoffenberger from 4-H of Virginia Beach, John McLaughlin of the Virginia Beach Career and Development Center, recognized in 1990 as Teacher of the Year; and Charles "Butch" Burke, Amateur Radio Operator of the Year" take turns stopping by and working with the children to pass their FCC test.

Right now, they are mostly learning from books and practicing through educational games.

But a grant of about \$1,500 will soon change that.

The monies from E.C. Wareheim

will go toward the purchase of amateur radio equipment for the club, whose call sign is KF4OGB.

"When we get out club station, the world's the limit," said Gibbs. "There are other schools that have clubs. There's one in New York."

The children also have a special friend who enjoys using amateur radio. Her name is Wendy Lawrence and she is a U.S. astronaut.

She recently visited White Oaks and was thrilled to find out about the club.

When Lawrence visits the Mear space station in September, the children are hoping to communicate with her via radio while she is out in space.

Meanwhile, they practice communicating with each other.

McLaughlin said he is impressed with their ability to learn the hobby as well as their willingness to talk about math, science, physics and communication.

"These kids are young," he said

with wonderment. "I've never worked with a group of kids this young learning radio code. Mr. Gibbs couldn't have picked more enthusiastic kids."

Because 45 minutes at the end of the week isn't a lot of time for learning Morse code, Gibbs holds voluntary practice sessions for 10 minutes at the end of lunchtime for club members who want to brush between meetings. About half of them are "coming religiously" on their own volition.

One of these students is Chris

Jameson, 9. He is glad he joined the club for a few different reasons.

"I think it would be fun talking on the radio," said Jameson. "I want to try to get my family into it."

Philip Hartley, 9, is also an avid lunchtime group attendee.

"I thought it would be fun and also I can let my little brother on the radio and know about safety," he said.

What's Hartley's favorite part about the club?

"I'm paying attention and learning things," he grinned.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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Many American mothers have discovered they have little reasons to give up smoking; their children.

The Environmental Protection Agency recently reported that secondhand smoke is a threat to the health of children. Other findings include:

- Between nine and 12 million American children under five years of age — that's one-half to two-thirds of all children in this age group — may be exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes.

- Children of parents who

smoke are more likely to have weaker lungs and more respiratory tract infections.

Exposure to secondhand smoke contributes to between 150,000 and 300,000 illnesses such as pneumonia and bronchitis annually in babies, resulting in 7,500 to 15,000 hospitalizations.

Exposure to cigarette smoke is associated with more and worse asthma attacks in children who already have the disease. It's also believed to put children and other loved ones can be an important factor. They can suggest after-dinner walks, for instance, instead of after-dinner cigarettes.

Secondly, there's a nicotine patch that gives quitters an advantage by minimizing their physical withdrawal symptoms so they can focus on changing behavior to make it more like that of a nonsmoker.

One woman who discovered smoking and parenting didn't mix is Jacqueline Golden of Arizona. "Being smoke-free has helped my emotional stability, attitude and physical well-being," she said. "And my parenting skills have improved dramatically!"

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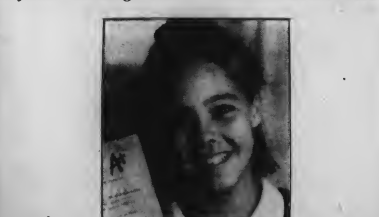
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Elvis shakes 'em up over reading

By ABBI BALSMEIER

Sun Intern
Children at Woodstock Elementary School can claim they've seen Elvis.

Yes, the King himself dropped by the school last Tuesday to encourage students to read.

Elvis' appearance was part of Woodstock's celebration of January Reading Month.

"We hope the kids get a sense of fun out of it and connect it with the willingness to read," said guidance counselor Carolyn Pulley.

Besides celebrating National Reading Month, the school is also honoring its 40th birthday by using the '50s theme.

Elaine Quinn, a parent of two children at Woodstock Elementary, said she thought having Elvis appear would correspond with the '50s theme. "Cruisin' with the Golden Oldies."

Kids are familiar with Elvis through their parents, Pulley said. Quinn contacted Elvis. Tim Beasley, through the entertainment agency Entertainment by George.

Beasley showed up for the occasion donning the proper Elvis attire. He wore a black wig equipped with sideburns, big gold-rimmed glasses, upturned collar and tight white suit intricately

decorated with sequins. Even the bell bottoms were present.

"Kids just love the colorful character," Beasley said.

After posing with several teachers who wished to have their picture taken with him, Elvis visited several classrooms.

The kids were quite surprised when they saw Elvis appear in their classroom door because they were not told Elvis would be visiting.

"We want it to be a surprise," Pulley said.

One little boy was a little confused by Elvis' presence.

"Hey, aren't you dead?" he asked. Elvis responded promptly.

"Reading keeps you alive!"

Elvis walked around the rooms searching for students who were reading. Students eagerly pulled their books out of their desks to show Elvis.

"I've been reading about the moon," one girl said.

Elvis told students that reading allows them to explore new places and to have fun using their imaginations.

"That's what reading is all about, it's a whole magic world," Elvis told the children.

After spending about 30 minutes in classrooms, Elvis appeared in

the school's cafeteria to do what Elvis does best, sing.

He performed "Ain't Nothin' but a Hound Dog" for an enthusiastic crowd of kindergarten through fifth graders.

Following his performance, Elvis judged a costume contest. Students were asked to dress up like their favorite storybook character that day.

Although he said it was a hard choice to make, Elvis chose a boy and a girl from kindergarten through second grade and a boy and girl from third through fifth grade.

Elvis even stayed around to wave to students as they loaded buses to go home.

Beasley said he's done appearances like this before. He's appeared at a middle school to wish a happy birthday to a girl who shared her birthday with Elvis.

"I've had a great deal of experience," he said.

Beasley is a professional impersonator and has portrayed other famous individuals such as John Lennon, Johnny Carson, Abraham Lincoln, Clint Eastwood and even historical characters like General Patton.

He said he's been doing impersonation part-time for 10 to 15 years and has been full-time for the last three to five.

"I have a lot of fun doing shows for all ages," Beasley said.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Kempsville Meadows PTA announces two \$500 scholarships are available this year to graduating Seniors in Virginia Beach public high schools. Eligibility includes being a Kempsville Meadows Elementary School student for two years. Applications are available at Virginia Beach Public, High Schools and at Kempsville Meadows Elementary School. The application deadline is March 14.

Creeds Elementary School PTA is offering two scholarships to students who attended Creeds Elementary during their elementary school years. Applications are available through the Kellan High School guidance office or by contacting Ella Clemons at 426-7792. The deadline is April 15.

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Photo by Abbi Balsmeier

ALL SHOOK UP! Elvis lives? Actually, that's impersonator Tim Beasley encouraging students at Woodstock Elementary School to read.

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Kindness spreading Museum pays tribute to surfmen's heroics

Continued From Page 1

Monday, when the Hampton Roads organization launches a week-long schedule of special events during National Kindness Week.

Seven days of simple benevolence, it's enough to make anyone smile.

And that's just what Bushman and his core committee of goodness guerrillas are hoping will happen. Gathered last week in the founder's Virginia Beach townhouse, they planned a multitude of activities to kick-start RASK of Virginia's revitalization.

"The concept has grown," said Bushman, who first shared his vision with *The Virginia Beach Sun* in 1994. "A couple of years ago there were really no businesses involved. Now there are."

With sponsorship from Lillian Vernon Corp., Aramark, Dragon Graphics, Lynnhaven Fish House and others, the business world is buying into the kindness movement as well. Schools have also expressed an interest in fostering the idea.

Bushman credits his friend Leonard Todero, RASK vice president, with helping to revive the movement.

"It's a simple twist of fate," he explained. "Lenny wanted to do something worthwhile to help people and we started brainstorming. We didn't know what we exactly wanted to do."

Bushman showed Todero some RASK literature, and he was intrigued.

"It was like, 'Why don't we bring RASK back?' It was like a lightning bolt in his mind and he said, 'Why don't we do that?'" Todero said.

From there the two received a letter from JC Penney asking the organization to participate in its annual Have A Heart Day charity event.

"Everything just started falling into place," said Julie Bushman, the founder's wife, "JC Penney, T-shirts, a logo. It all just happened."

With Have A Heart Day, RASK is selling tickets for the event at \$5 per household. The ticket is good for 25 percent off regularly-priced merchandise on Have A Heart Day, Feb. 8. RASK, in turn, will donate 20 percent of its proceeds to the American Cancer Society in the name of Pauline Moore.

The remainder will fund next week's National Kindness Week activities.

It will be a quiet campaign, not intent on attracting new members to RASK as much as spreading the movement. Promoting it will be RASK's core members: the

Bushmans, Todero, Colleen Parr, Daryl Carver, and Brian and Jeff Moore.

Each had different reasons for joining the movement, but all have a common goal: to see a friendlier world.

"I'm thinking about my children," Julie Bushman shared. "There's too much violence, and I want to turn it around for my children and their children and their children. At the rate we're going now, there's too much hate."

Parr, raised in a farming community where old-fashioned values were stressed, would like to see a return to that lifestyle.

"When someone was sick or needed help, you just helped them. You don't see that today. I want to show my kids it can happen. I can remember when my mom or dad was in the hospital, and other farmers would come and help out," she reflected.

Carver remembered an incident a couple of years ago when she was involved in a car accident.

"There was this one guy — I don't know who he was — who stopped and stayed with me the whole time. He didn't ask for anything. He just stopped out of the blue. That's what RASK means to me," she said.

Supporters hope RASK will mean a lot more to others after next week. Their campaign plans aren't grand, just simple acts of kindness that will impact others.

"We hope their eyes will just open up," Todero said. "We'll go from there."

The schedule is:

■ Monday, Feb. 10 — Just the Fax Day, in which members will fax letters asking them to do something nice for others.

■ Tuesday, Feb. 11 — Lollipop Guild Day — Members will distribute lollipops to strangers as a gesture of kindness.

■ Wednesday, Feb. 12 — Have a Great Day campaign — Spread sunshine with this simple greeting.

■ Thursday, Feb. 13 — Stick a Smile Day — Happy face stickers will be distributed.

■ Friday, Feb. 14 — Go Nuts for Donuts Day. Buy doughnuts for the office.

■ Saturday, Feb. 15 — Bring a Smile to the World Balloon Day — Happy face balloons will be distributed.

■ Sunday, Feb. 16 — Enjoy Your Family Day. Kindness starts at home.

"You want to talk about movements, it's there," Bushman said. "We've accomplished that. Now it's time to see it grow."

Anyone interested in joining RASK of Virginia's efforts can call 486-RASK for more information.

By BOB RUEGSEGER

Sun-Columnist

While I can't speak for Alex Palmer Haley — not that he ever needed anyone to speak or write for him — I can say with great confidence that the author of "Roots: The Saga of an American Family" and "The Autobiography of Malcolm X" would certainly have enjoyed seeing the African-Americans in the exposition at The Old Coast Guard Station.

Why? There are a handful of reasons.

First, this unique exhibit celebrates with an unconditional dignity the contributions that African-Americans have made to the fabric of our society and to the history of our nation. Heritage, history and identity made up the core of Alex Haley's most renowned work. African Americans in the Coast Guard features those core concepts that Haley considered so substantive in "Roots: The Saga of an American Family."

Secondly, the exhibit emphasizes the role of African-Americans in the U.S. Lifesaving Service, which was combined with the Revenue Cutter Service to form the U.S. Coast Guard in 1915.

According to Anne Dearman, the education/program director at the Old Coast Guard Station, the Coast Guard was the first of the United States armed forces to be integrated. The photographs of African-Americans at the Cape Henry Life-Saving Station in Virginia Beach and the Pea Island Life-Saving Station in North Carolina might be of special interest to Tidewater residents interested in tracing their relatives back to the early days of the Life-Saving Service.

Of course, Haley himself joined the Coast Guard in 1939 as a mess boy. During the course of World War II in the Southwest Pacific, Haley served as a ship's cook. Over the years, Haley's interest in reading and writing adventure stories led to becoming a chief journalist in the Coast Guard. When Haley became eligible to retire in 1959, he took his leave from the Coast Guard to commence a new career as a full-time writer.

Finally, Haley loved the sea and the Old Coast Guard Station exhibit is right on the oceanfront. It's a place that anyone who loves the ocean, ships and the seashore would enjoy visiting.

The amalgamate of African American history, Coast Guard tradition and nautical lore is a combination that fascinated water Haley.

An intriguing part of the Old Coast Guard Museum's exhibit included photographs and documents that pertain to the Pea Island Life-Saving Station that was first established on North Carolina's Hatteras Island in 1878. On Feb. 1, 1880, under the command of Keeper Richard Etheridge the first all-black crew came on board Station No. 17. After being redesignated as a Coast Guard Station in 1915, the station and crew continued its mission of saving the lives of shipwreck victims along North Carolina's Outer Banks.

Until it was decommissioned in 1947, the Pea Island Station was manned by African-American Coast Guardsmen. Moved to Salvo after deactivation, the station building is still standing while the original site of the station is occupied by Pea Island Wildlife Refuge.

A memorial plaque on Roanoke Island and the Coast Guard Cutter Pea Island honor the 67 years of faithful service by the men of Pea Island Station.

The Pea Island Life-Saving Station crew's most heroic rescue took place allowing the shipwreck of the schooner E.S. Newman in October 1896.

Station Keeper Richard Etheridge was in charge and Benjamin Bowser, William Damon Pugh, William Henry Irving, William Stanley Wise, Theodore Meekins and Lewis Sylvester Westcott were surfmen cited for heroism and gallantry.

The citation reads: "For extreme and heroic daring on the evening of Oct. 11, 1896, following shipwreck of the schooner E.S. Newman in the Atlantic Ocean near Cape Fear, N.C. 'Keeper Richard Etheridge gallantly led his six brave surfmen through fierce hurricane winds and pounding waves. Arriving on the scene in pitch darkness, with near zero



CHECK IT OUT. Anne Dearman, education/program director of the Old Coast Guard Station Museum, hopes the public will discover contributions of African-Americans during the facility's special exhibit this month.



THE KEEPER. Lonnie C. Gray is remembered as keeper of the light in the Old Coast Guard Station's museum collection.

visibility. Etheridge and his fearless crew attempted to pass a line to the E.S. Newman with their Lyle Gun but to no avail."

The citation continues: "Etheridge then directed two of his surfmen to lash themselves together with heavy line and sent them out into the violent surf and sweeping current toward the imperiled vessel."

According to the citation, Etheridge and his surfmen grabbed a second line in their hands while the remaining surfmen anchored the other end of the line on the beach. They worked their way slowly through the shore break, out to the high water mark and into deeper water.

While the furious wind howled and the raging surf intensified, the surfmen of the Pea Island Station risked their lives time and again to liberate the passengers and crew from the E.S. Newman.

The citation goes on: "Again and again, the Pea Island Station crew went back through the raging sea, literally carrying all nine persons from certain death to the safety of the shore. The Pea Island Station crew, under great difficulties, tremendous personal risk, and imminent peril, performed a truly remarkable feat of heroism. Their unselfish actions and valiant service reflect the highest credit upon themselves and are in keeping with the highest traditions of humanitarian service."

Not long before his death, in 1992, Haley attended the commissioning ceremony of the United States Coast Guard Cutter Pea Island which was, of course, named to honor of the African-American surfmen at Pea Island Life-Saving Station.

From December 1875 to April 1876, the roster of the Life-Saving Station at Cape Henry, Virginia also listed African American surfmen: Thomas Cuffee, Litterton Owens, George Owens, Peter Fuller and William Olds.

According to President Harry Truman, "The only thing new in the world is the history you don't know."

And at the Old Coast Guard Station Museum, there's a lot of history that would be "news" to most folks. The building, the former Virginia Beach Coast Guard Station is a Virginia Historic Landmark on the National Register of Historic Places.

Museum exhibits communicate the history of the Life-Saving Service and Coast Guard as well as tales of daring shipwreck rescues along the Atlantic coast.



NEW LIFE. The former U.S. Life-Saving Service Seastack Station at 24th Street is now home to the Old Coast Guard Station Museum, featuring an exhibit this month entitled "African-Americans in the Coast Guard."

The Old Coast Guard Station Museum's African-Americans in African-American history, the Coast Guard and the sea were an irresistible combination that Haley loved. He would certainly have found this unusual exhibit of

particular interest. The coast Guard exhibit opened Feb. 4 and is scheduled to run until March 2. The museum is located at 24th Street and Atlantic Avenue at the oceanfront in Virginia Beach.

Trolley service studied

Continued From Page 1

Councilwoman Louisa Stinchcomb said that in some communities older citizens serve as ambassadors for the city.

If the city decides to implement the first phase of the concept has the approval of the Resort Area Advisory Commission (RAAC) and other beach interests, Niles said-work will start right away and the changes will be in place early in the season.

Councilwoman Reba McClanahan said that she would be hesitant to make a long-term commitment. She said she was not interested in taking more police to the beachfront to manage the situation there. In Ocean City, Md., she said, the trolley system works because they have a lot of volunteer citizens.

Robert J. Hudome, Convention and Visitor Development Department said the staff has been briefed and the general consensus is that traffic on Atlantic Avenue is not doing too well for vehicles or trolleys and supports, along with the other beach organizations, phase I. He said that RAAC suggested using TGIF (Tourism Growth Investment Fund) funds for the first year.

Spore said that the reserved lanes would probably be used for Fridays and Saturdays only. Future phases would include

a connection to the Pavilion, and a fare reduction or elimination. Fares are now 50 cents.

The third phase would include permanent trolley lanes which would cost an estimated \$9.1 million and an increase in service on the Atlantic and museum routes which would cost \$500,000 in capital outlay and \$131,000 in operation and maintenance cost.

Fare elimination is included in the second phase of the project.

In other communities interviewed for the study, fares ranged from 50 cents a ride in Clearwater, to \$1.50 a ride in Wildwood, N.J. Trolleys in Pensacola, Fla. are free.

The average daily ridership in Virginia Beach is 862, which compares to 600 in Clearwater Beach, 421 in Daytona Beach, 6,000 in Orlando, 1,000 in Corpus Christi, Texas and 1,500 in Pensacola, Fla.

Strayhorn said that many areas offer transportation downtown free. Councilwoman Nancy Parker said, however, that Virginia Beach has local residents as well as tourists and that people can take advantage of the situation.

Councilwoman Barbara Henley said that the city wants the citizens to be able to go to the beach and the barrier now is parking. She said that local people have to go to the parking lots and should get free trolley service.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Business

Brad Face, chairman of Hampton Roads Sports Facility Authority, will be the guest speaker for the February Central Business District Association Luncheon. The video presentation that was shown to the NHL will also be viewed. The luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday Feb. 19 at the Clarion Hotel-Pembroke Corporate Center, 4453 Bonney Rd.

The cost of the luncheon is \$15.50 for members and \$20.50 for non-members. Reservations are required and will be accepted through Friday, Feb. 14. For further information, call 490-7812.

Clubs

The Adam Thoroughgood Chapter of the National Daughters of the American Revolution will hold its monthly meeting and annual George Washington's Birthday Luncheon on Saturday, Feb. 22 at noon at Norfolk Yacht and Country Club. Guest speaker will be Mrs. Stephen R. Hunter, Virginia state regent. For more information, call JoAnn Mathias at 427-9131.

The Cape Henry Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, will meet Thursday, Feb. 13 at The Max, 425 Water St. in Portsmouth. For more information, call 489-3590.

The Princess Anne Woman's Club of Virginia Beach will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 11 a.m. at Tandon's Pine Tree Inn.

Princess Anne Business and Professional Woman's Club of Virginia Beach will meet on Feb. 10 at Holiday Inn Surfside, 26th Street and Atlantic Avenue, at 6:30 p.m. The speaker will be Abby Tor from Bankers Life and Casualty. Her topic will be "Long-Term Care...The Health Care Crisis of the 21st Century." For reservations, call 499-0271.

Education

Join the faculty and students at the Career Development Center (CDC) for an informative night in learning about alternative scheduling and the offered Technical and Career Education classes. See the students demonstrate their vocational skills at CDC's Open House on Monday, Feb. 10 from 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Parents of students attending Independence Middle School are invited to attend the third of four "Parent/Principal" coffees on Feb. 11 at 9 a.m. in the school cafeteria. Dianne Cunningham, new principal at Independence Middle School, welcomes all parents to use this occasion to get acquainted with her.

Parkway Elementary PTA will hold its February meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Students from the kindergarten classes and the fourth and fifth grade chorus will perform music celebrating Valentine's Day, African-American history and American presidents.

Larkspur Middle School PTA will be celebrating PTA Founders Day and the 100th birthday of the National PTA with a Family Spaghetti Dinner on Feb. 18 from 5 - 7:15 p.m. A brief PTA meeting will follow dinner and then the "Voices of Virginia" from the Governor's School for the Arts will perform "I Have A Dream" to commemorate this special event. Tickets are \$5 and are only sold in advance. Call 640-5555 and select category 7665 for more information.

Health

Virginia Beach General Hospital will offer a Newborn Care class on Saturday, Feb. 15 from 9 a.m. - noon in the hospital. Also, a class will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 18 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the Baby Superstore in Greenbrier Market Center in Chesapeake. The newborn class is designed to assist parents in taking care of their new arrivals. The class covers bathing, feeding, infant safety, safe sleeping positions and doctors' visits. A fee is charged. For more information and to register, call the AHome Care Maternal/Child Program at 427-0309.

Virginia Beach General Hospital will offer Prenatal Information Night, a one-hour walking tour of Virginia Beach Hospital's Mother/Baby Unit. This class provides an opportunity to receive information about delivering at Virginia Beach General. Classes will be held on Sunday, Feb. 8 and Feb. 23 at 7 and 8 p.m. in the Virginia Beach General Hospital Lobby. There is no charge for this class. Space is limited and registration is required. For more information and to register, call the AHome Care Maternal/Child Program at 427-0309.

Recreation

Buy exquisite handmade crafts and original pieces of art at the 1997 Spring Festival of Crafts. Meet crafters and artists from across the United States as they display and sell their wares. Applications are still available to interested crafters and artists. This annual event will be held on Saturday, March 1 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sunday, March 2 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Great Neck Recreation Center, 2521 Shorehaven Dr. (off Great Neck Road, adjacent to Cox High School) in Virginia Beach. For further information, call Great Neck Recreation Center at 496-6766, TDD, 471-5839.

Kempsville Recreation Center will hold an Adult Ballroom Dance on Sunday, Feb. 23 from 1 - 3 p.m. Music will be provided by The Melody Makers. Light refreshments will be served. Adults of all ages are invited to participate. Kempsville Recreation Center is located at 800 Monmouth Ln. in Virginia Beach. A membership card or day pass is required. For information, call 474-8492, TDD, 471-5839.

LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notice

VIRGINIA: IN THE VIRGINIA BEACH CIRCUIT COURT CLERKS OFFICE IN RE: WILLIAM EDWARD CHILDRESS Plaintiff. V. SANDRA COCHRAN CHILDRESS Defendant. ORDER OF PUBLICATION - CASE NO. CH97-288. The object of this suit is for the said plaintiff, William Edward Childress, to obtain a divorce a vinculo matrimonii from the defendant, Sandra Cochran Childress, upon the grounds of one (1) year's separation pursuant to Section 20-91(9) of the code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

It is ORDERED that Sandra Cochran Childress appear and protect her interest, on or before March 26th, 1997, which date is no sooner than fifty days after entry of this order of publication.

And it is further ORDERED that this order of publication be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Virginia Beach Sun, a newspaper of general circulation in this City prescribed by this court.

January 31, 1997
DATE
J. CURTIS FRUIT, CLERK
By Bill Maul
Deputy Clerk

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia will be held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Building, Municipal Center, Princess Anne Station, Virginia Beach, Virginia, on Tuesday, February 7, 1997 at 6:30 p.m., at which time the following applications will be heard:

SUBDIVISION VARIANCE: LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH
1. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance, Subdivision for Steve Frazier & Dr. Fitzhugh Mayo. Property is located on the west side of S. Woodside Lane, south of Keelingwood Court. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH

KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH

2. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance for Naginder S. & Sharanjit K. Dhillion. Property is located at 3542 Glen Arden Road. KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH.

STREET CLOSURE: BAYSIDE BOROUGH

4. Application of C & C Development, L.L.C. for the discontinuance, closure and abandonment of a portion of Pleasure House Road located on the east side of Pleasure House Road beginning at a point 123.17 feet south of Andrew Jackson Lane, running a distance of 50.42 feet along the east side of Pleasure House Road, running around a curve a distance of 19.81 feet, running a distance of 66.13 feet along the eastern property line and running a distance of 17.37 feet along the northern property line. Said parcel is variable in width and contains 836 square feet. BAYSIDE BOROUGH. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH

4. Application of The Runnymede Corporation for the discontinuance, closure and abandonment of the following streets:

Pine Street: Beginning at the northern boundary of Fourth Street and running in a northerly direction a distance of 499.40 feet. Said parcel is 66.02 feet in width.

Third Street: Beginning at the northeastern intersection of Pine Street and Third Street and running in an easterly direction a distance of 412.84 feet. Said parcel is 50.02 feet in width.

Poplar Street: Beginning at the northern boundary of Fourth Street and running in a northerly direction a distance of 499.40 feet. Said parcel is 66 feet in width. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

CHANCE OF ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION: LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH

5. An ordinance upon Application of Martin L. Jr., and Margaret W. Cornick for a Change of Zoning District Classification on the following parcels:

Parcel 1: From R-7.5 Residential District to B-2 Community Business District on certain property located at the southwest corner of Third Street and Pine Street.

Parcel 2: From B-2 Community Business District to R-7.5 Residential District on certain property located at the southeast corner of Fourth Street and Pine Street.

The proposed zoning classification change to B-2 is for commercial land use. The proposed zoning classification change to R-7.5 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 7,500 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of these parcels for business/research center use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 6.107 acres. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT: LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH
6. An ordinance upon Application of Drivers Mart of Virginia, L.L.C., for a Conditional Use Permit for motor vehicle sales, rental and repair on certain property located on the west side of Rosemont Road beginning at a point 400 feet more or less north of South Boulevard. Said parcel contains 14 acres more or less. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

7. An ordinance upon Application of Mother Seton House, Inc., T/A Seton House for a Conditional Use Permit for a group home on certain property located at the southeast corner of N. Lynnhaven Road and Edinburg Drive. Said parcel contains 3.16 acres. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

8. Motion of the City of Virginia Beach to amend and rezone Section 111 of the City Zoning Ordinance pertaining to definition of a lodging unit.

All interested parties are invited to attend.
Ruth Hodges Smith, CMC/AE City Clerk
If you are physically disabled or visually impaired and need assistance at this meeting, please call the CITY CLERK'S OFFICE at 427-4303; Hearing impaired, call TDD only 427-4305 (TDD Telephonic Device for the Deaf)

Public Notice

Order of Publication Commonwealth of Virginia Virginia Beach Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re: Roger Allen Golson; Rayla

Annette Young; Dana Raye Young The object of this suit is to: Obtain the entry of an Order of custody for Roger Allen Golson, born May 9, 1982 Rayla Annette Young, born March 12, 1984, and Dana Raye Young, born May 11, 1991 to be awarded to Roger Alan Young.

It is ORDERED that the Defendant Donna Raye Young, appear at the above-named Court and 3-6-97 at 11:00 A.M.

Fredrick C. Jenks, III, Clerk of Court
1-24-97
BY: V.M. Barnard
Deputy Clerk

Public Notice

VIRGINIA: IN THE VIRGINIA BEACH CIRCUIT COURT CLERKS OFFICE.

IN RE: Robert W. Lewis, Jr. Plaintiff v. Tijuana R. Lewis Defendant
ORDER OF PUBLICATION CASE NO. CH96-3874

The object of this suit is for The said Plaintiff to obtain a divorce A Vinculo Matrimonii on the grounds that parties have been separated without interruption and without cohabitation exceeding a period over one year.

It is ORDERED that Tijuana R. Lewis appear and protect her interest, on or before March 5, 1997, which date is no sooner than fifty days after entry of this order of publication.

And it is further ORDERED that this order of publication be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Virginia Beach Sun, a newspaper of general circulation in this City prescribed by this court.

Jan. 13, 1997
DATE
J. CURTIS FRUIT, CLERK
By Bill Maul
Deputy Clerk

Public Notice

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA FORSYTH COUNTY IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION 941219 IN THE MATTER OF: Solomon wenerett DOB: 8-27-79

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION TO: LYNDIA JENERETT, mother of the above referenced juvenile.

TAKE NOTICE that a Juvenile Petition seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is an adjudication of Dependency with respect to the above-referenced juvenile pursuant to N.C.G.S. 7A-517(3).

You are required to make a motion to the Juvenile Petitions within thirty (30) days after the date of this notice; and upon your failure to make a defense to the juvenile Petition within the 30 day period specified herein or to attend the hearing on the said petition, the petitioner will apply to the Court for an Adjudication of Dependency with respect to the above-referenced juvenile.

The hearing on the Juvenile Petition is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 13, 1997 in Courtroom 4-J of the Hall of Justice in Winston-Salem, North Carolina or as soon thereafter as the Court can hear the said case.

This is The 7th day of February, 1997.
Theresa A. Boucher
Attorney for the Forsyth County Department of Social Services P.O. Box 999 Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 (910) 727-8305

Public Notice

Take notice that on February 7, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1986 Ford E-350
Serial # 1FTJTE34Y5GH821707
6-11
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on January 24, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1986 Dodge Ram Van
Serial # 2B6HB23T3GK55462
6-12
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on February 7, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1991 Isuzu Rodeo Ls
Serial # 452CY58ZSM4303221
6-10
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on February 4, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1983 Pontiac 6000 LE
Serial # 2GAG19X3D1261319
6-09
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on January 20, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1990 Ford Ranger P/U
Serial # 1FTCR10X0LUA90432
6-08
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on January 31, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1991 Buick Century Sedan
Serial # 1G4AAH54NBM6444712
6-07
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on February 4, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1992 Plymouth Acclaim
Serial # 1P3XA46K4NF102479
6-06
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on January 24, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1992 Chevrolet Corsica LT
Serial # 1G1LT53T0NY159724
6-05
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on January 31, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the

premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1987 Ford F-350
Serial # 1FTJTE4Y5HHB42333
6-04
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on January 31, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1997 Buick Century Sedan
Serial # 1G4AAH54NBM6444712
6-03
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on January 27, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1986 Honda Civic
Serial # JHMAK7432G500240
6-02
IT-2-7

Public Notice

Take notice that on January 27, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1986 Honda Civic
Serial # JHMAK7432G5002440
6-13
IT-2-7

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
On October 1, 1996, A. H. Belo Corporation ("Belo") filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission for a construction permit for a new UHF television station on Channel 21 at Virginia Beach, Virginia. The application proposed operation with 5000 kilowatts effective radiated power from an antenna 342 feet above ground level on a tower located at 450 Battlefield Boulevard, North Chesapeake, Virginia, with studios to be located within the station's city-grade contour. The officers, directors and 10% or greater stockholders of Belo are: Robert W. Dechard; Ward L. Huey, Jr.; Michael J. McCarthy; Michael D. Perry; Vicky C. Teteran; Harold F. Gaar, Jr.; Brenda C. Maddox; William E. Nolen; Burl Osborne; Duiza A. Shive; Marian Spingberg; Jeff Lamb; John W. Bassett, Jr.; Judith L. Craven; Roger A. Emrick; Dealey D. Herndon; Lester A. Levy; James M. Moroney, Jr.; Hugh G. Robinson; William T. Solomon; Thomas B. Walker, Jr.; J. McDonald Williams; and Arturo Madrid. A copy of the application, any amendments and all related materials are available for public inspection at 4100 Virginia Beach Boulevard, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

4-05
3T-2-7

LASKIN ROAD

Route 58

City of Virginia Beach

Second Citizen Involvement Meeting


Meeting: Wednesday, February 19, 1997 ** Anytime between 4:00pm and 8:00pm
To be held in the Linkhorn Park Elementary School located at 1413 Laskin Road in the City of Virginia Beach.

Purpose: To provide interested citizens an opportunity to informally review and discuss the preliminary information concerning the improvements to Laskin Road (Route 58) from Great Neck Road (Route 279) to Pacific Avenue (Route 60) in the City of Virginia Beach.

Comments: Written comments and other exhibits relative to the proposed project may be submitted at the meeting or sent to the Department at any time within 10 days after the meeting.

Special Assistance: If you require additional information or special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting please contact:

Norfolk Residency: 1-888-723-8401 (toll free)

 Virginia Department of Transportation

Device for the Hearing Impaired (TTY): 1-800-307-4630

Project: 0058-134-V03.PE-101.RW-201.C-501

Federal Project: STP-5403 (407)

Project: 0058-134-V02.PE-101.RW-201.C-501

Federal Project: STP-5403 (252)

Project: 0058-134-V04.PE-101.RW-201.C-501

Federal Project: STP-5403 (409)



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guide to home employment. RUSH \$5.00 and SASE to Ann Marie 26036 Cox Rd., Petersburg, Va. 23803. 2/28

CREDIT CARD FRAUD SCARE YOU? Get the facts to protect yourself! Rush \$10 cash/ck/mo to: Fraud watch, Dept. 100, P.O. Box 337, Olville, Va. 23129-0337. 2/21

Join an almost-beginners Spanish conversation group; call Churchland Library: 686-2538. Meeting dates and times to be determined by group. 2/7

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WEDDING RECEPTIONS parties, reunions and special events at Hickory Ruritan Club* 260 person capacity, kitchen facilities, stage. Contact Tom Holms before 5pm at 421-7677 2/23

APARTMENTS/RENT

Clean, Furnished Apartment-LR, 1br, carpet, tile BA, Kitchen, gas heat, no pets, \$310/mo. No utilities furnished. Call 484-3381. 2/28

SENIOR CITIZENS DISCOUNT on remodeled 1-2 bedroom. Call 425-7575. 2/28

1-2-3 BEDROOM APARTMENTS & HOUSE: Close to bases. Furnished or unfurnished. \$200-\$500 monthly. 6 month lease required. Call 686-8164 or 480-2133. 2/14

ARTICLES FOR SALE

WASHER: \$100, color T.V. \$30, Black & white T.V. with radio alarm \$15, other household items must see 496-0440. 2/7

DESCRAMBLERS: Clear scrambled stations for cable T.V. 1-800-400-6456. 2/14

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Antiques & Collectibles Auction. Every Thursday 7pm. Hardtitz & Sunshine 463-7335. 244 London Bridge Shopping Ctr. 2/28

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HUGE savings on selected models of new arch-type steel buildings. 25x42, 30x40. Great backyard shop-2 car garages. Easy financing available. Call immediately 1-800-341-4044. 2/14

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START A HOME BUSINESS TODAY. 10 best opportunities for details send S.A.S.E. to Di-holls 1304 Oakmont Place, Norfolk, Va. 23513. 2/14

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Educator Consumer Educator Experience adult educator with consumer education & tax preparation background to provide effective financial education programs at Navy Family Services Center located in southern Chesapeake. Requirements: inc. Master's Degree, 2 years work experience in consumer education, financial management, etc. and 1 year direct financial counseling, tax preparation and presentation exp. Military lifestyle experience essential. Send resume to LWWN, P.O. Box 3605, Norfolk, Va. 23514. EOE/ADA. 2/7

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HONORS AND AWARDS

Stepping out of the Marine Corps, into another career

By BOB RUEGSEGER
Sun Correspondent

When Chief Warrant Officer 4 Albert Lee Sargent stepped off the bus and into those yellow footprints painted on the pavement outside the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island, S.C. as a recruit in October 1965, he had absolutely no idea where those footsteps would lead.

When Sargent entered the Marine Corps, he had no intention of making the Marine Corps a career.

At the end of his first enlistment, which included an all-expense paid trip to Vietnam, Sargent was discharged and elected to return to his home of record in Knoxville.

By 1973, he had been working as a lab technician for a paper company in Knoxville, for almost four years. When — almost as if by accident — a Marine recruiter, an old friend of Sargent's, called and asked him if he might want to return to active duty with the Marines as a corporal.

Sargent thought about the recruiter's offer and agreed to an arrangement to return to active duty with the Marines as a corporal.

He returned to active duty on May 24, 1973 with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing at Cherry Point, N.C. The very next day Sargent was promoted from corporal to sergeant.

As far as Lee Sargent was concerned, that lightning bolt-like promotion was another step in the right direction. This time around Lee Sargent would serve in the Marine Corps for 24 years. With his prior service, that amounted to a total of 28 years.

On Friday, Jan. 31, at Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base in Virginia Beach, Sargent called it a career.

Twenty-eight years of duty, honor and commitment in the United States Marine Corps came to a conclusion during the retirement ceremony held in Sargent's honor at Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Atlantic.

In his opening remarks, Maj. Jim Scuggs commented, "We are here today to celebrate the 28 years of faithful, dedicated service that Chief Warrant Officer Sargent has given to the Marine Corps."

Colonel Fawcett, director of Navy Forces Training, awarded the Navy-Marine Commendation Medal to CWO Sargent in addition to other letters of commendation and appreciation.

The Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal was awarded for "unrelenting perseverance and steadfast devotion to duty which reflected great credit upon himself and were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service."

The commendation was signed by Rear Admiral W.R. Fladd. Fawcett characterized Sargent as "the consummate professional" and a friend whose "duty, honor and commitment" to the Marine Corps was "beyond reproach."

When asked about the highlight of his years in the Corps, Sargent had to think about it for a few minutes. Over his lengthy and meritorious career with the Marine Corps, he has received six personal decorations and 15 letters of



Photo by Bob Ruegger

LONG CAREER. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Albert Lee Sargent, left, was honored by the Marine Corps upon his recent retirement. He served from 1965 to 1997.

commendation, merit and appreciation. The Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Commendation Medal and Combat Action Ribbon are among his awards.

In addition, Sargent made the transition from enlisted to officer when he was appointed as a warrant officer in February of 1981. Ordinarily, one might think that achieving commissioned officer status would be the highlight of Sargent's Marine Corps career. Not so.

So what was the highlight of his distinguished career? Sargent grinned slightly. It was a sincere hint of a smile.

"You know," he said with his characteristic Tennessee drawl, "I'd have to say that the real highlight of my career in the Marines was my tour of duty as a drill instructor at Parris Island."

Sargent nodded in support of what he had just said as if that were the first time he had bothered to think about it.

"It was a challenging and demanding job. I worked 125 to 130 hours a week and just loved it," he explained.

"Once a Marine, always a Marine!"

Albert Sargent

Sargent felt that surviving DI School and a tour of duty as a drill instructor prepared him for his leadership role in the Marine Corps. At Parris Island, he was meritoriously promoted to gunnery sergeant.

He liked being called Gunnery Sergeant Sargent; it had a nice ring to it. But don't think that Sargent was over anything like the Marine that Robert Duvall portrayed in "The Great Santini" that was based upon a Pat Conroy novel.

According to him, "Santini's problem was switching off the drill instructor mentality I and leaving that part of the job at work." CW04 Sargent claims that he's able to turn that part of the Marine Corps persona on and off like a switch.

"Some guys just can't do it," explains Sargent. "It's never been a problem as far as I'm concerned. I'd never think of subjecting my family to that intimidating bearing that's so closely associated with the indoctrination Marine Corps recruits."

Sargent credited his wife, Margaret, with being the key to his military success. She has been the "glue" that held his family together when duty called. Without Margaret's constant support, Sargent acknowledged that living up to his commitment to both the Marines and his family would have been impossible.

Between Parris Island and Little Creek Amphibious Base, Sargent's career path has led him through assorted logistics assignments from Maintenance Management Chief of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing in El Toro, Calif. to Surface Transportation Officer of the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force in Okinawa, Japan.

In addition he has served as Combat Cargo Officer aboard the USS Charleston and as Master Instructor for Transportation Expeditionary Warfare Training Group in Norfolk. Until his retirement Sargent was the Combat Cargo Officer aboard the USS Wasp.

Sargent's real expertise is in the areas of air, ground and sea terminal operation end the supervision of loading operations for ships, aircraft and trucks.

"I'm very good at loading ships, planes and ground vehicles," he said without any trace of false modesty. "I had to pick a specialty. I'd have to say I excel at loading ships. For me, loading a ship like the USS Wasp is a piece of cake. If you know what you're doing, it's a snap."

To Sargent, retirement doesn't really mean leaving the Marine Corps; he regards it as simply a transfer to an "inactive status."

"Once a Marine, always a Marine!" he emphasized. "Just because I'm being transferred to inactive status doesn't mean I'll forget the core values of the Marine Corps — duty, honor and commitment. Marine Corps values are my personal values as well."

As Sargent concluded his Marine Corps career in the ceremony at Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base in Virginia Beach, an old Chinese proverb came to mind: "A journey of a thousand miles, begins with a single step."

Retirement was that first step for Sargent.

Where this next segment of Sargent's journey through life will take him is anybody's guess.

Whatever he chooses to do, it is a safe bet that it will be done with duty, honor and commitment.

Semper Fidelis!

HAMPTON ROADS ON THE MOVE

Beware telemarketing scam

The Better Business Bureau and the U.S. Customs Service warn senior citizens not to fall prey to a recent international telemarketing scam. Senior citizens throughout Canada and the United States are receiving calls from phony telemarketers who have obtained their phone numbers from sweepstakes entry forms.

The telemarketers are identifying themselves as U.S. Customs officials located on the U.S.-Canadian border. The victims are told that they have won \$100,000 or more in a sweepstakes drawing, and that they must send a percentage of the amount won to pay the "duty" or "tax" on the winnings before they can be released. The victims are instructed to send a cashier's check via overnight mail delivery to a fictitious address in Montreal. Once the scam artists receive the tracking number from the victim, the money is then redirected to a different mail drop.

As if that's not enough, many victims are being taken a second time by the same scam artists who call back and identify themselves as a business which helps people recover money after being scammed. The victims are then asked for another several hundred dollars to help recover the lost money. Of course, no money is ever returned.

If you are contacted by someone who claims to be a U.S. Customs Service official who wants to discuss duties owed, you should be aware of the following:

- U.S. Customs does not telephone individuals who owe duty on merchandise sent to them from outside the U.S. If you do owe duties, you will be notified by the U.S. Postal Service, which collects the duties on behalf of customs for the parcels sent via postal service.
- U.S. Customs duty is neither

charged nor collected on currency.

- Never give out your credit card number, bank account numbers or your social security number over the telephone to someone who promises you money in exchange.

- Only invest in offers you are familiar with and that offer complete, verifiable data. A reputable company will always mail you information if you ask.

- If the individual requesting money purports to be from a government agency, ask for a certified letter on official agency letterhead before you send any money or give your credit card information.

Legitimate sweepstakes contests and prize promotions do not require a purchase or payment (for shipping or anything else). If you are asked to pay money up-front, whether for "processing," "delivery," "taxes" or "duties," beware!

- Don't respond to any offer before checking the company out with the Better Business Bureau, your state and local consumer protection agencies or the state's Attorney General offices.

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Va. Beach Methodist hosts chorus

Virginia Beach United Methodist Church is sponsoring an evening concert series with programs for the public once each month.

The first of this series will present the 30-member Commodore Chorus of Hampton Roads in a program of barbershop to Broadway repertoire on Friday, Feb. 7. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. and is free and open to

the public. A freewill offering will be received to help defray costs of the concert. A nursery is provided and parking is available in the church parking lots.

The Commodore Chorus is a chapter of the world's largest male singing organization. Its members come from all over Hampton Roads and are led by conductor David Springstead. The

chorus will present a program of music both patriotic, barbershop and Broadway show classics — all with dazzling costumes and choreography.

This concert is open to public school students and sanctioned by the "I Was There" program for students extra credit.

Contact the church office for additional information at 428-7727 daily.

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VIRGINIA BEACH NEWS and VIEWS

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On the chance that something better could come up, Strayhorn moved to defer the application indefinitely.

Commentary

PAINT YOUR HEART OUT, HAMPTON ROADS!

Regionalism at its best

Regionalism is a hot topic in Hampton Roads these days, the subject of some good and some not-so-good debate.

One of the latest efforts falling into the regional melting pot, however, is good news to all — Paint Your Heart Out Hampton Roads. Rotary Clubs in all South Hampton Roads cities are joining hearts and hands soon to kick off the first such effort.

An annual project begun in 1991 by the Chesapeake Rotary Club, Rotarians in Chesapeake, Portsmouth, Norfolk, Suffolk and Virginia Beach will participate this year in painting homes for elderly and low-income homeowners in their respective cities. To date, 140 homes have been painted, bringing a brighter future to elderly citizens.

South Hampton Roads' mayors should be commended for supporting the cause. Representing their cities Thursday during a Paint Your Heart Out kick-off rally in Norfolk, they accepted the roles of honorary chairpersons and received special hands-on paint instructions from Chesapeake Mayor William E. Ward. The mayors also declared April 26 as "Paint Day" in their respective cities.

This year, the combined effort will total 70 homes in one day — homes that otherwise might not get the care because their owners are on small, fixed incomes. The result is enhanced pride in ownership and better-looking neighborhoods.

Without the support of volunteers, who get the grunt work done, and businesses, who donate the necessary supplies, the project would not be possible.

This is the public's chance to make a difference in the lives of elderly citizens and toward working together as a region. Give from the heart — time on Paint Day, monetary contributions and/or supplies, or as an office worker before and during Paint Day. For more information, call 489-PYHO.

And remember, Paint Your Heart Out Hampton Roads! — V.E.H.

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The Virginia Beach Sun Deadlines

News deadlines for The Virginia Beach Sun are Monday at 5 p.m. for the upcoming Friday's issue.

✓ Articles must be legible, preferably typed, double-spaced on standard-sized paper.

✓ Pictures must be sharp, clear and accompanied with complete information.

✓ News may be brought or mailed in and should include the name and telephone numbers of the person submitting it.

✓ The Virginia Beach Sun welcomes and encourages letters from its readers on topics of general interest.

✓ All letters must carry the name and address of writer for verification.

✓ Letters should be addressed to: Editor, The Virginia Beach Sun, 138 South Rosemont Road, Suite 209, Virginia Beach, Va. 23452. Phone: 486-3430.

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Letter to the editor

Rules don't give for politicians, students

Editor:
On Jan. 4, 1995, Rep. Newt Gingrich of Georgia was sworn in as speaker of the house, the first Republican speaker in more than 40 years. This is the man who, by reason of death, resignation, removal from office, inability, or failure to qualify, or should there be neither a president nor vice president to discharge the powers and duties of the office of president, shall upon his resignation as speaker and as representative act as president.

In Washington, D.C., this recently the House Ethics committee took the unprecedented action of recommending a fine and reprimand, sanctions that could permit him to retain his powerful post.

Mr. Gingrich's decision to accept the penalty suggests that the charges were more grave than he was willing to acknowledge, rather than merely "reckless conduct that showed disregard for the rules of the House," or being "simply naive and largely innocent of any intentional misconduct." Also, misbehavior did not represent a single instance of reckless conduct, but over a number of years and a number of situations showed a disregard and lack of respect for standards of conduct, even providing misleading and unreliable information about his activities.

Now, hear this: In Virginia Beach this past week, four eighth-grade students were suspended indefinitely because in one brief, impulsive moment, one of them gave the others what they thought was candy, but were told later that it was caffeine. One of them did not ingest the "pill" at all because of a chronic stomach condition, but one of the others suffered an allergic reaction and required medical attention.

Letters from the school to the parents state the possibility of suspension for one calendar year, and exiling them from any school function, or being on the school grounds. Absolutely Draconian, wouldn't you say? (The type of punishment that one would associate with arson, destruction of school property, or perpetual troublemakers, or carrying concealed weapons to school.)

Please! Let the punishment fit the crime — if there was any — and get all this stricken from their records!

I have more than a passing interest in this incident. One of the students happens to be my grandson, but this letter applies to all of them.

Eugenia M. Lowry
4008 Cornick Ave.
Chesapeake

Clear the decks for November

Democrats at the '97 assembly are busily clearing the deck for the November election of Virginia's three statewide officeholders and all 100 seats in the House of Delegates.

They are nostalgic for the happy days of a compliant Governor like Charles Robb, whose focus was on relaxing weekends at Virginia Beach and a career in national politics. They're now persuaded Lt. Gov. Don Beyer will fit that role rather nicely.

Convinced that Gov. George Allen has been out-foxed by their strategists and put on the defensive in his last year, loud are the choruses in the Democratic caucus. "Being a lame duck this year, his voice is a distant sound," said Del. Tom Jackson, D-Carroll.

Jackson's voice is certainly loud enough in House Majority Leader, Dick Cranwell's claque of studiously supportive stooges.

The governor knew these people from his days in the House of Delegates and seemed to grasp he could confront them only in the garb of a lion tamer, with a whip in one hand and a pistol in the other. When he

swapped his boots for Hush Puppies, they were instantly at his throat.

The Democratic Party is now a political force representing mainly the aspirations of those who work for government — about 15 percent of the work force — or who expect to get more in public benefits than they pay in taxes. Conversely, the Republican Party counts chiefly among its adherents those who suspect they have been chosen as payers. It's an iron rule of politics that a party must look to serve its base first.

It was news to me that Virginia maintained a State Employee Health Insurance Fund or trust. I had always assumed claims were provided for in the budget on a sum-sufficient basis. This obscure note recently provided political manna for Democrats when an even more obscure civil servant, Anthony Graziano, told legislators the fund was in danger of going bust. This was backed up by independent auditors reporting to the legislature.

While Graziano and the auditors know many times more about it than I do, it's hard to get too excited over that concerns. But Democrats knew a hot button when they saw one. It fit nicely with their strategy to win the affections of 100,000 state workers and their families going into the 1997 election.

In a recent letter to legislators, Allen pointed out that the fund had a cash balance of \$110 million last month. "I would remind you," he said, "that in 1993 the balance dipped to \$98 million. I do not recall a single instance where 'insufficient balances' led to the impending 'crisis' that has

been predicted."

Since claims over the past five years averaged not much more than \$50 million a year and retained earnings exceeded that figure, doing nothing would appear to keep the fund solvent for several more years. Whenever real insolvency is threatened, the legislature can always add more money.

"Despite the best advice of the commonwealth's key financial advisors," the governor wrote, "the unfortunate attention on this issue may give state employees the misguided impression that their health insurance is at risk."

You bet.
To address those concerns and to cut Democrats off at the pass, Allen told legislators the most recent estimate of state revenues in the 1996-98 biennium had been raised, should be \$20 million. This, he said, should be appropriated to the health-insurance fund "to eliminate any potential premium increase in 1998, if in fact there is even a need for one."

Going the governor one better, Democrats on the House Appropriations Committee settled on \$27 million as a proper amount to put in the fund. By making this, for the first time, a political hot potato, they may also be insulating state workers against premium increases over the next few years. Guess who will pick up the slack.

The legislature is set to propose a 3 percent raise for state workers and a 5 percent increase for faculty at state colleges, effective Dec. 1. This re-

□ See NOVEMBER, Page 10

Memories wrapped in pink and red

If you're reading this while munching on a heart-shaped box of delicious Whitman's Sampler chocolates,

it's a good sign that this must be Valentine's Day. Ah, yes, the most decadent of holidays. As I write this, my husband is plotting what we will do to celebrate the day for lovers. The only

hint he offered to what the surprise might be is "Leave Friday night free. Don't make any plans."

Hmmm, mighty mysterious. A fancy dinner at a posh restaurant? A bubble bath by candlelight? A last-minute suite at a fancy hotel complete with champagne? Or maybe even a weekend getaway? One can only imagine.

As lovely as all this is, I can't help but reminisce about Valentine's Days of yesteryear.

From the beginning, the holiday is one of lace paper hearts cut from doilies adorning pink and red construction paper. Mom, always first in a youngster's heart, was the lucky recipient of this carefully-crafted card held together by globs of Elmer's glue and a whole lot of love.

But I also remember Valentine's Day for the pilgrimage it meant to Jay's Pharmacy.

Growing up in Norfolk's Edgewater section, the family-owned drugstore across from Old Dominion University was a 20-minute walk from the house. But to a child's short legs, with strides only half as long as an adult's, it might as well have been 20 hours.

Grasping my hand, Mom and I made regular trips to the Hampton Boulevard store for one thing or another. Valentine cards were one of those "anthers."

The picking came early so as to ensure a good supply and plenty of time to prepare. Where I attended elementary school, Garrison-Williams in Norfolk's Ghent, it was customary for all classmates to trade cards with each other. With everyone receiving one of the tokens of endearment from everyone else, no one felt slighted.

But I digress. Gray's had a vast collection (at least to my discerning eye) of pre-packaged cards with cartooned characters, some with crazy, lampooned wishes and others with witty, sweet sentiments.

I usually chose the silly, sweet ones. I'm a sucker for things like that.

With the prepackaged cards in hand, each one no larger than my palm and certainly costing no more than 99 cents per box (ah, the good old days), we made the trip home.

Mom would sit me down at the kitchen or den table, colorful crayons in hand, and I'd set to work signing the cards. For a child, this is a time-consuming task. If you've ever had to write numerous thank-you notes at once or even filled out invitations, you know what I mean.

Finally, the tiny valentines would be complete. We'd stash them in the small cardboard box in which they came or tucked them into a brown paper bag for easy transport on the big day.

Valentine's Day was always looked forward to by the girls, but too often bemoaned by the boys. I suspect many mothers of these reluctant fellows forced the little lads to fill out the cards with a threat of punishment if they didn't.

But that didn't matter to us girls, who the week before had completed elaborately-decorated shoeboxes in which to collect our valentines from the young Romeos. Ah, sweet romance!

The classroom was decorated, of

course, in shades of red and pink. For some reason I particularly recall my fifth-grade classroom, under the watchful eye of Mrs. Arnold, as being exceptionally colorful.

After the day's lessons had been learned, we'd settle down to the real business — distribution of the cards. Sometimes each child would drop their own into others boxes, but more likely all the cards were dumped into one big box and distributed by two teacher's helpers. As the valentines began to pile up, so did the anticipation.

Would that one special boy you had an eye on give you a mushy card, or a silly one with crazy, even insulting statements? Usually it was the latter. I don't recall any of my fifth-grade counterparts swooning too often over a card from a romantic 10-year-old.

After the cards had been opened and the extra special ones pressed close to the heart, a helping of cake and ice cream was in order before the troops trotted onto the bus home. It was a pleasant end to a satisfying day.

These days, however, merchandisers make sure ladies don't swoon over a mere card. No, gents, we want jewelry, flowers, candy and anything else you can imagine.

Most of all, though, we just want you and sincere affection.

Am I lying? No. To be honest, there is nothing that I need or truly want this holiday, save for a few flowers to brighten the table. They don't even have to be roses, not with them costing upward of \$75 on Valentine's Day.

To tell the truth, I bet most women would just as soon like a lace paper heart glued to red and pink construction paper with globs of Elmer's glue — simple, sweet and to the point.

Oh, yeah. A heart-shaped box of Whitman's Sampler chocolates might be just the right touch. Not that I'm hinting, though.

Gee, I can almost taste 'em now. Save me the dark-chocolate, coconut-filled creme, OK?

O.J. or Clinton?

Six of one, or half dozen of another

Along with millions of others, I had the choice of either watching the O.J. Simpson verdict, or Bill Clinton's State of the Union ball. I chose the

Simpson verdict but could not help but think what has this country come to when those two events are the only major happenings of the day. One was as sickening as the other. I wanted to puke.

Unfortunately, Simpson had to be tried twice before he was finally convicted of something. If the truth was told, he should have received the electric chair in the first trial, but I guess the prosecution wanted to be politically correct so they didn't ask for it.

It really made no difference what they asked for. They didn't have a snowball's chance in hell of getting a conviction in the first trial anyway. I really can't comprehend how anyone could possibly believe that Simpson did not butcher Nicole Brown and Ron Goldman. The evidence was there, but Judge Ito allowed Johnnie Cochran to put the Los Angeles Police Department on trial instead. It is also difficult to believe that dozens of other people not connected to the L.A. police were also in on the conspiracy.

As for the racist, Mark Fuhrman, there was never a shred of evidence that he framed O.J. Simpson.

Simpson lied so many times that it was hard to keep up with them. Lying on the witness stand translates into perjury but he will get a free ride on that. In fact, perjury is not important anymore. I remember the time you went to jail for perjury, not today.

The very idea that Nicole Brown got black eyes, bruised lips and a swollen face from picking pimples is beyond belief, but it is the shoes that finally got him. His civil defense lawyer didn't put up much of an argument against the shoes because there was no argument. He was caught flat-footed, and had it not been for the shoes, he probably would have walked away (no pun intended).

Whatever side one takes on the two Simpson cases, it is time for both blacks and whites to stop abusing each other. It is not worth it. Both should join forces to try and help correct a now dysfunctional justice system that is harmful to all.

If race is going to determine whether a person is convicted or not, then we are closer to hell in a hand basket than I originally thought.

There is nothing more that can be done to O.J. except take a little of his money, and I doubt if they will get much of that after all the appeals. Let him live out his life battering women and playing golf. One day he will face a judge far wiser than any on this earth.

By the way, where are all the beautiful National Organization for Women chicks? We haven't heard a peep out of them.

Welcome to the real world.

Editorial Supervisor
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Victoria Hecht
Composition
M.J. Knoblock
Andrea Greene

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Beach embarks on alternative punishment

In 1995, the governor and the General Assembly initiated some significant changes in the laws which impacted Probation and Parole, Community Corrections as well as other alternative punishment programs.



The Mayor's Report

Mayor Meyer Oberdorf

know that offenders were being punished to the fullest extent of the law inclusive of having to serve their sentences without any change of parole.

Issues of victim restitution, community service and other alternative sentencing options were also addressed as a part of this reform. Along with these reforms came new standards and guidelines, a change in funding agents, and the creation of Community Criminal Justice Boards.

These changes had a major impact on local community corrections programs. Some of the changes were in the source of funding which is now the Department of Criminal Justice Services versus the Department of Corrections.

The board's purpose is to create and oversee a citywide criminal justice plan, act as recipient of funds for all criminal justice grants coming into the city and to make recommendations for current programs and/or create new ones.

For some programs, it meant going from serving a single jurisdiction to serving multi-jurisdictions and vice versa. Those programs that were private non-profit had to attach to a municipal agent if funding was to continue and all service providers had to come under the umbrella of a Community Criminal Justice Board.

Additionally, some programs had to change their name.

For the Virginia Beach program, which has been known as the Office of Community Corrections since 1989, it meant deleting all references to Community Division Incentive and notifying its customers of the

Walkers unite for March of Dimes event

Before the March of Dimes 1997 Norfolk/Virginia Beach WalkAmerica takes place at the oceanfront on April 27, walkers will eat. A Team Captain Kick-Off breakfast is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 14 at 7:30 a.m. at Johnson and Wales University in Norfolk.

This is an opportunity for all team leaders to come together and get psyched for the big, five-mile event this spring.

"There's still time for folks to round up their friends or co-workers," said an enthusiastic Cathy Hersher of the March of Dimes. "We'd love to have anyone interested in forming a team come to this breakfast."

Those who would like to form a team may attend the breakfast by calling Hersher at 486-1001. As few as five people can make up a team. When asked about a maximum number per group, Hersher replied with a straight face, "One-million-twenty is OK. We'd have to draw the line at one-million-twenty-one though."

Last year, 92 teams raised a total of \$102,000 in the fight against birth defects. This year's goal is \$110,000.

name and other significant changes.

For our municipality, the main impact has been the creation of the Community Criminal Justice Board. While the city already had a Public Safety Team, the new board's membership was now prescribed by law to include one judge from the Circuit, General District and the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts, the sheriff, the police chief, someone from the City Attorney's Office; the Magistrate's Office; the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney; the school board; the Community Services Board; the Public Defender's Office; and, here in Virginia Beach, the City Manager's Office.

By state code, single jurisdiction boards could have up to 15 members, i.e., Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, etc. Multi-jurisdiction program such as Hampton/Newport News, Suffolk/Isle of Wight, etc., can have up to 20 members in order to assure that all jurisdictions have representatives to serve their particular interests.

The Virginia Beach Board was officially appointed by city council in 1995. Statewide, ours was one of the programs in the forefront because of the city's pre-existing team approach.

The board's purpose is to create and oversee a citywide criminal justice plan, act as recipient of funds for all criminal justice grants coming into the city and to make recommendations for current programs and/or create new ones.

In order for cities to continue to receive state reimbursement for jail buildings and additions, criminal justice plans are now required. While the new board members were preparing themselves for their new tasks and functions, the program coordinator and staff were working diligently to make the modifications and changes necessary to bring the program into compliance with current policies and procedures.

Specific program changes for the Community Corrections Office included first and foremost knowing and understanding all the changes in the funding process and data collection procedures as well as understanding the new guidelines and standards.

This had to be done prior to making changes in our intake process, creating and developing a new policies and procedures manual or notifying the judges, court staff or others of these changes, which also affected how cases were now to be referred. These tasks were formidable, not only because they meant an overhaul of the program but because the guidelines and standards were and are still being developed; staffing and funding levels of both DCJS and the local programs are less than the ending DOC levels in fiscal year 1994 and there remain many unknowns about the direction to be taken by the 1997 General Assembly and the Governor in regards to these two significant issues.

At the same time these tasks were being done, services continued to be provided to the courts and offenders. On top of these stresses, the program positions were reduced by three which meant in addition to making changes, staff was assuming the responsibilities of the lost positions.

During this period of transition, the program provided services to 1,281 offenders including the monitoring of the completion of the 30,822.30 hours of community service for approximately 47 public and private non-profit agencies inclusive of the city. For the courts and crime victims, the program collected from the offenders \$23,631.00 in restitution, fines and court costs.

I commend this staff for their efforts on behalf of the city and its citizens.

For your information, referrals to the program can be initiated through the courts prior to, during or after the disposition hearings. Offenders must be 18 years of age at that time and can be referred on a Class 1 or 2 misdemeanor or a Class 5 or 6 felony, or any non-classed felony.

All referred charges must be of a non-violent nature. The state code clearly defines the prohibitive offenses.

Both the city and the state see the value to the public in having alternative punishment programs for certain offenders. The public's safety and interest are certainly being served when non-violent offenders are performing community service; paying victim restitution, court costs and fines; as well as receiving treatment when necessary.

We view that the key to continuing programs of this nature lies with maintaining a balance between safety, costs and protecting the community's interest.

Bessie Bell, community corrections coordinator for the Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office, contributed to this column.

Up close and personal

John Stasko: At home outdoors

By VICTORIA HECHT

Sun Editor

Looking out his office window, John Stasko sees the dunes rising up to meet the horizon and tall grasses waving in the chilly breezes. Every now and then, winter wildfowl streak across the sky, while the ocean's roar is a faint, calming hum, day in and day out.

It's a pretty scene, but one that Stasko can't enjoy as often as he'd like. Occasionally, though, the manager of Back Bay Wildlife Refuge will postpone a task to enjoy the natural beauty for which he labors so hard.

A long-time naturalist, Stasko joined the Sandbridge area refuge in July 1995.

"I always had an attraction to it (the outdoors). Like a lot of college students, I bounced around a couple of majors. I was a chemistry major for a while and also playing football, and the long, five-hour labs didn't mesh with my practice schedule. I searched for a different field, and it probably wasn't until my junior year that I actually got into the biology program. I basically fell in love with it."

Stasko credits two professors, who "loved the outdoors and environment, who were fascinated by how it all worked together," with instilling that same love in him.

After graduating from Heidelberg (Ohio) College, he joined the Fish and Wildlife Service in its Job Corps Program. He was told that he would teach at a civilian conservation center. Thinking he would be instructing underprivileged youth, the job was actually a vocational training program.

"I was disappointed when I first got to Missouri, where this station was, but I quickly found that there was important work to do in the Job Corps Program."

Stasko stayed in that program for 12 years before getting back to what he describes as "the biological side of the business." Along the way, though, he learned a variety of skills, including management.

From there, Stasko spent 10 years at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, Md., his most recent station before coming to Virginia Beach.

"For the last six years there, I was involved in a project where I planned, constructed, put the program together and opened the National Wildlife Visitors Center at Patuxent, the largest visitor and environmental complex in the Department of Interior," he said proudly.

The research center has a world-class reputation, most notably for its work that led to the ban on DDT.

Stasko accepted the Back Bay position with a decision to "get back to the dirt."

"Refuges are where the real work and service gets done. I really hadn't had an opportunity to manage what people consider a real refuge like what you have at Back Bay. I applied and was very happy when I was selected for the position. Back Bay has kind of a dual reputation within the network. It's a real unique environment. There are very few places in the country, maybe in the world, where you have an ocean and a dune environment, and then on the west side of that you have a freshwater environment. Most times you would find that saltwater estuary on the west side. Back Bay itself is a unique habitat area."

"It has been significant to migratory birds. The other thing is being totally within the boundary of a large city like Virginia Beach, you have a certain complexity that you don't find at a lot of refuges. There are development issues, environmental protection issues, even age-based tourism issues that all attracted me. For too long I had been in the thick of it. I didn't know if I could go to the middle of Montana, as lovely as that would be, but I think I would have missed the opportunity to interact with a lot of different organizations."

Stasko is office-bound most of the time, he said wistfully. "But I make opportunities to get out in the refuge."

He insists that he's a lucky man.

"Having an opportunity to provide a positive impact on the resources is something that people in refuges cherish. It's something that we should take the opportunity to do. There are no occasions, other than park management jobs, where you get paid eight hours a day to preserve and protect the wildlife environment, thus impact people's quality of life. It's a neat job from that perspective. You realize that what you do, you do so that somebody's grandchildren and their children will have an opportunity to experience nature in its best possible light."

Planning is a large part of the job, and outreach is vital. Stasko said some might call his position "public relations," but it's much more than that. He stays up-to-date on environmental issues and maintains close relationships with other refuges and organizations in the watershed.

Environmental funding is a constant challenge.

"It frustrates me that there are so many people who are interested in environmental quality and wildlife. They have expressed that in surveys and polls and interviews. You can look at any national poll, or even in the state of Virginia, and see what's important to the people. The environment rank high on the list. Yet when you look at the national and state budget, how much is spent on this high priority, it doesn't



balance out," he explained.

A volunteer-dependent refuge, Back Bay relies heavily on Friends of Back Bay and other organizations that spread the word and raise funds. Stasko noted that the Sandbridge refuge operates on an annual budget of just around a half-million dollars. There are 10 people on staff, down from 20 in recent years.

A member of the National Audubon Society and National Wildlife Refuge Association, Stasko attends St. John the Apostle Roman Catholic Church and served on the False Cape State Park Access Agreement Negotiating Team. He earned a Special Act Performance Award from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for his work on the team.

Name: John Paul Stasko.

What brought you to this area: I transferred to my present station from another U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge.

Hometown: Johnstown, Penn.

Birthdate: March 11, 1951.

Nickname: The latest one to stick is "Captain Chaos." My family hung that one on me.

Occupation: Refuge manager, Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

Marital Status: Married to Cynthia.

Children: Nathan. He's 17, a junior at Ocean Lakes High School and likes football, difficult classes and girlfriend Erin (his teachers and Erin may disagree with that order. Ben is 12. He likes video games, food and basketball...oh yeah, and reading "The Secret Garden."

Favorite movies: "T2," "Braveheart" and "Young Frankenstein."

Magazines I read regularly: I don't have time to read magazines. I scan through health and fitness mags hoping I'll get thin again by osmosis.

Favorite authors: I read fantasy and science fiction. I really enjoy Orson Scott Card, Ann McCaffery and Robert Jordan.

Favorite night out on the town: My wife and I like to go to the theatre or to small dinner clubs with headline entertainment. We've not done either in Virginia Beach. Lately it's been a movie and pizza.

Favorite restaurant: We like the 501 Grill and the Lynnhaven Fish House.

Favorite meal and beverage: Domino's thin crust pizza and a lot of Pepsi.

What most people don't know about me: Most people don't know that my real name is John Paul. People were lazy and wanted to drop the "Paul." I let them, but I've always regretted it. My mom would like it if I were named after the Pope.

Best thing about myself: I don't forget the spoken word. Some people

have a photographic mind. I guess I have tape recording ears. It's a talent that only serves when I'm around people who've known me long enough to trust my recollections.

Worst habit: I can't pass up anything sweet. Some people have a sweet tooth, I must have a mouth full of them.

Pets: We have no pets presently. We used to have a yellow Lab, but I didn't see one dog in our subdivision when we were house hunting, so we gave Missy away. Guess what? There are dogs all over the place. Go figure.

Ideal vacation: We used to go away to the beach and stay a week. My family enjoyed everything the area offered while I read. They were happy. I was happy. I did try to join them for meals.

Hobbies: Sports. Nowadays I just watch (bad knees). When I watch my boys play sports it's really something special.

Pet peeves: People who complain how bad our government is but don't vote. You should only complain about a system if you're part of the system. It's so easy to get involved.

First job: I worked for a city parks department maintaining baseball fields and playgrounds. The old-timers there taught me how to stretch two hours of work over an entire day. It took me years to "deprogram."

Worst job: Cleaning glassware in a hospital lab. Pouring coagulated blood out of glass tubes was really disgusting.

Favorite sports teams: Pittsburgh Steelers, Washington Capitals and North Carolina State basketball.

Favorite musicians: Jean Luc Ponty, Chuck Mangione and Isaac Perlman.

Most embarrassing moment: I went to the ninth-grade class picnic in a pair of Bermuda shorts. I discovered that my boxer shorts stuck out past the bottom of my shorts. That was not fashionable in 1965.

I would like my epitaph to read: "John Stasko, good husband, caring father. Spent a career in service to the people of America."

If I received \$1 million: I'd buy my son Ben a restaurant. My wife and I are just fine (although she'd like a little more working capital) and Nate is ready to go to school now. College will be \$0K a year when Ben is ready. He'll make his restaurant work and take care of us all.

If I had 10 minutes on national television: I'd ask the American people why they permit their elected officials to ignore the issues they care about the most. Americans and Virginians believe care of the environment and natural resource protection is a high priority, yet they allow it to be shortchanged in the budget. We should put our money where our hearts are.

THE ARTS

Business brisk for Va. Waterfront Int'l. Arts

Since the Virginia Waterfront International Arts Festival opened its new box office on Jan. 15, action has been brisk. The live broadcast of Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion" sold out in the first few days of public sales.

However, the 18-day festival — which showcases world class events from around the globe — has dozens of other performances to choose from including renowned artists from the worlds of classical, jazz, contemporary and world music, dance and music theatre. Performers include the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, the Miami String Quartet, Mark Morris Dance Group, Circus Flora and jazz legends Ramsey Lewis and Billy Taylor, to name a few.

Those who missed out on tickets for Keillor's performance will still be able to tune in to public radio (locally on 89.5 WHRV-FM) "Prairie Home Companion" is broadcast nationwide on Saturday, May 10 at 6 p.m., live from Chrysler Hall in Norfolk.

Additional venues for festival events include opera houses, museums, recital halls and other performance spaces, all within the 50-mile region known as "The Virginia Waterfront."

Advance sales of the Keillor broadcast had been offered to WIRO's members in November. Tickets for other select events were sold in blocks to international tour operators impressed with the festival lineup.

The International Military Tattoo performance at the Norfolk Scope on April 25 was of particular interest to overseas buyers and is

proving equally popular at the box office. Inquiries have been coming in for all events and almost as hot an item as the Tattoo is is the Victor Borge concert. The *Port Folio* Pass is sparking considerable interest and sales.

The establishment of a new box office, located at 232 E. Main St. in Norfolk, was made possible by a grant from the Norfolk Foundation. Single tickets for the festival's inaugural season (April 24 - May 11) may be purchased in person at the box office, or phone 664-6492 or fax 662-3663. Box office hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., with extended hours starting April 1. Saturday and Sunday hours are noon - 4 p.m. Single event tickets are also available through TicketMaster at 466-7555.

Tickets for individual events range from \$9 to \$50. Almost a dozen packages are available from \$40 to \$112, offering discounted combinations such as Weekend Series, Opening Weekend, Heritage Series and Dance Series. The *Port Folio* Pass lets visitors pick five selected events for \$97. Some events, such as the Opening Night celebration, the Kid's Fundango Festival, the Multicultural Festival and Art Exposure are free.

For a full schedule, information on packages, group rates, discounts for students, seniors and military on select performances, as well as opportunities for Festival Memberships, contact the festival box office at 664-6492.

Student performances, workshops and master classes can be arranged by contacting Young Audiences at 466-7555.

Seasonal sounds come to Norfolk's Chrysler Hall

Seasonal sounds will fill Norfolk's Chrysler Hall on Feb. 21 and 22 at 8 p.m. and for a Sunday matinee on Feb. 23 at 2:30 p.m. as the Virginia Symphony and violinist Tomohiro Okumura perform Antonio Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons" and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Symphony No. 41 in C Major.

Virginia Symphony and conductor JoAnn Falletta will lead the symphony performance. The sponsor of "The Four Seasons" concert is Paine Webber.

Most of Vivaldi's music was lost after his death. "The Four Seasons" was among the first works to be discovered in this century, and it has remained the most popular, sparking interest in his other music.

First prize winner of the 1993 Walter W. Naumburg Foundation International Competition, 25-year-old Okumura has been hailed as an exceptional young artist. After receiving this distinguished award,

he made his Carnegie Hall debut performing Lalo's "Symphonie Espagnole" with the New York concert orchestra, and his Alice Tully Hall debut on Feb. 28, 1994. In recital, he has appeared at the Kennedy Center, Revina Festival, Gardner Museum and the Kranert Center.

Tickets for "The Four Seasons" concert are \$9 to \$40 and may be purchased by calling TicketMaster at 671-8100 (Southside), the Virginia Symphony Ticket Store located in downtown Norfolk at 550 East Main St., Suite 505, at 623-2310 (Southside), or any Tidewater First Virginia Bank. Special student tickets may be purchased for only \$6. Discounts are available for groups, military and senior citizens.

The sponsors of the Classical Masterworks Series include WFOG, USAir and Norfolk Waterside Marriott.

ODU presents 'Raisin in Sun'

Old Dominion University Theatre celebrates Black History Month with Lorraine Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun" opening Friday, Feb. 14 at the University Theatre.

"A Raisin in the Sun," the first play by an African-American woman on Broadway, presents a moving portrait of an African-American family trying to maintain unity in turbulent post-World War II Chicago.

The production runs Feb. 14 - 16, 20 - 23, 27 - 28 and March 1 at the University Theatre on Hampton Boulevard between 46th and 47th streets. Tickets are \$10 general admission for Friday and Saturday performances, \$8 general admission for all other performances, \$7 for senior citizens, ODU faculty and staff, and non ODU students, \$5 for ODU students with identification. Special group rates are available.



The Furman University Singers

Courtesy Photos

Jewish Forum hosts songwriter Debbie Friedman

Singer, songwriter and guitarist Debbie Friedman shares her emotionally-charged music on Sunday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. at Congregation Beth El in Norfolk. A legend in the world of Jewish music, Friedman has a tremendous gift of healing and uplifting the human spirit wherever her music is heard.

Friedman recently released her 14th musical recording and the first book of her songs scored for piano. Influenced by American popular music of the 1960s and '70s, including Peter, Paul and Mary, Joan Baez, Judy Collins and Melissa Manchester, among others, Friedman has performed her lyrical, harmonic music in hundreds of cities in the U.S., Canada, Europe and Israel.

She recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of her professional music career with a musical retrospective at Carnegie Hall. Friedman's music combines words from Jewish liturgy with simple, singable melodies along with a profound lack of pretentiousness to create timeless and inspiring music that is now sung all over the world in synagogues, as well as churches, schools, camps and community centers.

"When somebody calls me to do a seminar, concert, workshop or a teaches' workshop, I tell them that is you have the privilege of standing in front of a group of people, then you have the responsibility to give them something...a piece of themselves or a piece of Torah or a piece of something that they can apply to enhance and enrich their lives," said Friedman.

A Minnesota native, Friedman served as cantor for three years at a Reform congregation in Los Angeles. She has directed music and singing programs at the University of Judaism, Los Angeles; the University of California at Santa Cruz; and, Brandeis University.

The next Tidewater Jewish Forum performance is Dr. Everett Fox of Clark University, who will discuss the interpretation of his most recent translation and best selling book "The Five Books of Moses" on April 6 at 7 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Tidewater.

Individual tickets for Friedman, which are \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children under 18 years of age, may be purchased at the JCCT, 7300 Newport Ave. Mastercard and Visa are accepted. Call 489-1371 for more information.

Furman U. Singers perform

The Furman University Singers, an outstanding collegiate choir that performed on national television this past summer with the Boston Pops, will present a special program of sacred and popular music when the group performs Thursday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Thalia Lynn Baptist Church in Virginia Beach.

The public is invited to attend without charge. The group, under the direction of Bingham Vick Jr., was the featured choir for the Boston Pops' most recent Fourth of July concert, which was televised live on the Art and Entertainment Network. The singers are currently making their annual spring tour.

The sacred-portion of the concert will demonstrate how American sacred music has been influenced by and developed out of the choral traditions of many countries.

The program will include choral music from England (Thomas Tallis' "O Lord, Give Thy Holy Spirit" and Charles V. Stanford's "Beati Quorum Unus"), Germany (Bach's "Now Let Every Tongue Adore Thee"), Brazil (Jean Berger's "Brazilian Psalm") and Africa (Via Olutunji and Wendell Whalum's "Betelehemu/Nigerian Christmas Song").

American music featured during this part of the program will include Daniel Gawthrop's "Sing Me to Heaven," Kenneth Jennings' "All You Works of the Lord" Bless the Lord," and F. Melius Christiansen's "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying." In addition to



Bingham Vick Jr.

works by Brazeal Dendard and Moses Hogan, the Singers will also perform "Chief Seattle's Psalm" by Daniel Moe.

The group will close the sacred portion of the program with two selections it performed at last year's Fourth of July concert with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra — "God Bless America" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

"The Lighter Side" of the Singers' program will include Jerry Novak's "Tuxedo Junction," Ernst Toch's Geographical Fugue, "The Circle of Life" from "The Lion King" and a medley of songs of the South, Dixieland Jamboree. The

Mosquitoes, Furman's infamous barbershop quartet, and the Honeybees, four delightful young ladies, will also perform.

Brian Dailey, a junior from Spartanburg, S.C., serves as the accompanist for the Singers, and Scott Jarrett, a senior from Lynchburg, is the student conductor.

Founded in 1946 by DuPre Rhame and directed by Vick since 1970, the Singers have maintained a reputation as one of the best collegiate choirs in the country. They have performed at the prestigious national convention of the American Choral Directors Association and have made tours of the United States, Europe and the former Soviet Union. They traveled to Italy this past summer, where their concert venues included St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and St. Mark's Basilica in Venice. The Singers were invited to sing with the Boston Pops on July 4 by conductor Keith Lockhart, who is a 1981 Furman graduate.

Bingham Vick Jr. is in his 27th year as director of the Furman Singers. A member of the Furman music faculty since 1970, he teaches voice and conducting in addition to directing the Singers and the Furman Chamber Choir. He is also musical director at Westminster Presbyterian Church, and is conductor and artistic director for the Greensville Chorus.

For more information about the Furman Singers' concert, contact Thalia Lynn Baptist Church at 499-0557.

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Underwater archaeologist probes sea's treasures

By JANE ROWE
Sun Correspondent

If you think working late's a major chore, try John Broadwater's job.

This underwater archaeologist remains enthusiastic and relaxed even after a 16-hour day.

He was burning the midnight oil recently, preparing slides for his Feb. 16 lecture at the Virginia Center for Contemporary Art in Virginia Beach, but he took a few minutes to chat about the work that he loves so much.

He loves it, he added, because he never knows what he might learn when he's diving. Something as bizarre as animal skeletons or as simple as an arrowhead can become the missing link for historians trying to piece together information about life in past centuries.

"We try to learn the same things that an archaeologist on land tries to learn," Broadwater said. "We find primitive sites, and we try to fill in the gap."

But you don't have to be a diver to find artifacts that have been buried under the sea for centuries, Broadwater added. Beachcombers who hike along the shore after a storm are likely to find prehistoric artifacts or timbers from wrecked ships.

How to identify an archaeological find, and what to do about it will be the focus of his upcoming talk, which is sponsored by the Old Coast Guard Station.

Unfortunately, Broadwater added, there aren't any easy answers to the questions the lecture addresses, which include "How old is it?" "Can I keep it?" and "How can you tell how old an arrowhead is, and is there any way to tell a ship's timbers how old it is?" Broadwater said.

"These same question occur over and over again. But probably 99 percent of the time when something washes up, it's just a pile of timbers."

Even the experts usually can't figure out if it's part of a wrecked ship or, if so, how old it is and what ship it came from.

The question of whether or not the finder can legally keep old timber, bits of pottery or arrowheads can be just as murky. A lot depends on what part of the beach he finds it, Broadwater said.

Because everything below the mean water line is public property, any artifacts found there are state property, but the finder may be legally entitled to keep his treasure if he finds them above the high tide mark. "It depends a lot on whether the beach is public or privately-owned or military," Broadwater said.

But whether or not you have a legal obligation to report finds, you probably have a moral obligation to do so, he added.

"An arrowhead is a chance find," he said, "and generally what we lose is information as the finder takes it home. If I find an arrowhead and you find one the next day, and someone else finds one, we might all think they're just single arrowheads. But that might have been part of a major native American settlement."

Humans lived in eastern Virginia at least 10,000 years ago, Broadwater said, but historians don't know much about them because many of the artifacts from that period are now buried "under 100 feet of water."

At that time, the shore extended

much further eastward than it now does, he added, and there's evidence of native American settlements off of the Virginia coast, in what's now the open ocean.

"This area hasn't been explored very much," Broadwater said. "It's hard to explore, because it's hard to detect bits of pottery or arrowheads," buried under sand or water. Storms, Broadwater added, can be a boon to history buffs because they often free objects that have been buried under a mound of sand for centuries. "After a storm, you might see a huge ship hull, and you wonder why it didn't surface earlier," he said. "It's because it's been lodged in sand."

These finds always stir the imagination, but sometimes they don't provide much hard information, Broadwater said. No one's been able to figure out the identity of a 19th-century ship that washed up on Croatan in November 1994. But historians learned more from an earlier project in Yorktown that revealed a lot about life in Colonial Virginia and how the Revolutionary War was fought.

Broadwater, as Virginia's senior underwater archaeologist, directed a study of a Revolutionary War-era British transport ship that sank in the York River. The findings from that ship, he said, included cat's and rat's skulls and a complete duck's skeleton. The duck's skeleton proved the most interesting because it revealed a lot about day-to-day life on board 18th-century ships.

"We thought it was a locally-caught duck," he said, "but we couldn't identify what type of duck. We finally sent photos of the skull to England" where naturalists identified it as a type of duck raised in England. "It had come over on the ship with them," he said. "There were two of the ducks, and they were probably brought on the ship for the eggs." Sailors also sometimes stocked ships with live pigs, chickens and goats as part of their food supply, he added.

The transport ship was also filled to the brim with spit logs that were probably meant to be used as fortifications in the Battle of Yorktown. "The crew probably took the ship upriver, felled the trees, and brought them back down as part of the British fortification effort," Broadwater said.

"Water transportation was essential" (in colonial America), Broadwater continued. Land transportation was difficult if not impossible, so "the waterways provided the trade and transportation and archaeologists often look underwater" to learn about early American history.

Wrecked ships, and the information they reveal, are what got Broadwater hooked on underwater archaeology, he said. The former engineer began diving, then exploring shipwrecks as a hobby when he was on assignment onto the Pacific Coast. "There were a lot of shipwrecks in that area," he said. "I got caught up in it and I finally changed careers."

Broadwater has served as manager of the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration since April, 1992. He's directed two expeditions to the Monitor and he frequently does research for The Old Coast Guard Station in Virginia Beach and other local museums. His upcoming talk, scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Feb. 16 is the second in a series of three lectures being presented this winter by the station.

HAMPTON ROADS ON THE MOVE



A 'Hub' of activity

A recent ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Hub Gallery Center in Virginia Beach featured, from left, Leonard Schlain, district manager; Colleen Citaro, corporate merchandising; Howard Erdich, vice president of merchandising; Virginia Beach Mayor Meyera Oberndorf; Connie Post, chief executive officer of The Connie Post Companies; Richard Barnett, president and chief executive officer of Reliable Stores; Ben Ayers, SVP Credit; and, Grace Forbes, manager.

Welcome Wagon rolls into Hampton Roads

Welcome Wagon International is dramatically expanding its unique in-home greeting service throughout the Hampton Roads area. Seven representatives have already been hired and 85 more are sought to personally bring Welcome Wagon's trademark baskets — filled with local civic and cultural information as well as free gifts and special offers from local businesses — to families who have just moved into Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Portsmouth, Norfolk, Hampton and Newport News.

"With so many families moving into the area each month, the need for Welcome Wagon has never been greater. As a result, we're hiring more than 85 people as fast as we can to help those new movers settle into their new communities," said Sandra Call, Welcome Wagon's Virginia Beach field manager. "Call is immediately searching for new Welcome Wagon representatives in the seven cities and has already begun hiring in Virginia Beach and

Chesapeake. Representatives spend much of their time making home visits to new movers, which typically last about one hour each. During a home visit, a representative will hand out local information and answer questions about the community to help acclimate new movers.

Those needing information about becoming a Welcome Wagon representative, requesting a home visit, or becoming a sponsor can call (800) 424-MOVE or contact Welcome Wagon on the Internet at www.welcomewagon.com.

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Chamber lauds Matson for accomplishments

John P. Matson received the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce's Chairman's Award at the chamber's Annual Meeting of the Membership last month.

Matson, who serves the chamber as vice chairman, economic development, is executive vice president, regional executive for Signet Bank in Hampton Roads.

He also is chairman of Forward Hampton Roads, the chamber's economic development division.

Gregory N. Stillman, chairman of the chamber's board of directors, selected Matson for his tireless efforts toward regionalism. Under Matson's leadership, Forward Hampton Roads introduced the Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance, a group devoted to raising \$10 million for regional marketing through a public-private partnership.

private partnership.

"So many of the chamber's board members accomplish great things annually," said Stillman.

"What set John apart this year was his ability to organize the alliance while performing his many other functions. The formation of the alliance is an unprecedented step toward putting the entire Hampton Roads Region on the map, both nationally and internationally."

"What John helped accomplish this year lays the groundwork for the future economic success of this region."

The Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce is a 3,000 member firm business action organization committed to building the business climate, providing for future economic expansion and improving the quality of life in Hampton Roads.

Grab a good read at Goodwill store's new 'Book Boutique'

Starting this weekend, Goodwill Industries of Hampton Roads will open a "Book Boutique" in the main thrift store at 900 Tidewater Dr. in Norfolk.

Volunteers have been working for several weeks to set up a designated area for book lovers at Goodwill.

A special room inside the store will feature new or gently used fiction and non-fiction, cook books, technical manuals, collectibles, classics and children's books, all displayed in a comfortable setting.

Prices will range from 50 cents

for children's books, \$1 for all soft backs and up to \$3 for a popular new release in hard back.

A special "search service" will also be available for customers who are anxious to acquire a specific book.

Goodwill's mission is to provide job training and employment services to people who are disabled or disadvantaged. Goodwill job training programs are funded by revenue from the agency's thrift stores and local contributions, including United Way.

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Peter J. Kemp, M.D.

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Crime Solvers seek suspect in good-samaritan-turned-attacker case

A woman was attacked by a man she thought was a good samaritan.

Police have a composite of the man they are looking for and need your help.

On Friday, Jan. 10 at 3:50 p.m., a woman was attacked by a man who broke down on Indian River Road near the Route 64 overpass. A man stopped to help and offered her a ride home. After taking her to her home in the 2000 block of

Agcroft Road, the man forced his way into her home and attempted to



Suspect

rape her. She fought back and the man ran from the home.

The man, who said his name was John, is described as white, in his 30s, 5-feet-6-inches tall, with a stocky build, blue eyes, short brown hair and a mustache.

He was driving a 1980s model Mustang or Capri that had faded black paint and a gray interior. Information should be provided to Crime Solvers by calling 427-0000.

Crime Solvers

By Detective Michael G. Derwent, Virginia Beach Police Department

Agcroft Road, the man forced his way into her home and attempted to

EDUCATION

9-1-1 training pays off for 5-year-old

The kindergartner had learned it only days before

By PENNY A. POWELL
Sun Correspondent

9-1-1. That's the number that one Glenwood Elementary School kindergartner, 5-year-old Ashley Gobert, immediately dialed when her mother, Wynetta Daniels, recently fainted in their Virginia Beach apartment.

Coincidentally, just days before that episode, State Farm Insurance had conducted 9-1-1 training with about 240 the Glenwood students. Ashley did a fantastic job of retaining the information learned at the training session and successfully carried out the 9-1-1 calling process from her home.

"It was really neat that Ashley's mom came in and told us all about it," said Mary Jo Fama, kindergarten teacher at Glenwood Elementary and a key organizer of the program.

Daniels, who suffers from asthma which she says "has gotten worse over the years," collapsed after the consumption of some medication that doesn't agree with her asthmatic condition. After spending several hours in the hospital, Daniels was discharged and able to return to her Beach home.

Fama explained that it was through Craig Finotti, the father of one of her students and an employee at State Farm Insurance, that Glenwood initially found out about the 9-1-1 training program.

"He offered this program to us if we were interested in it," Fama recalled, "and we were working with the number 9' for homework that particular week and so I said that would tie in — recognizing the number 9' — that important number."

Although 9-1-1 calls are nothing to joke about, State Farm Insurance offered a fun and playful touch to their two sessions at



SHE DID IT! Her 9-1-1 training at school paid off for 5-year-old Ashley Gobert, who was able to summon an ambulance to the home when her mother passed out from conflicting medications.

Glenwood. Because a bear is their symbol, "a man dressed in a bear costume," was a part of the program, Fama explained. "The students were able to get their pictures taken with him — that was one group, and then another group was busy coloring a little follow-up sheet on when to use 9-1-1, and then the other group was at the simulators."

The groups then rotated. Simulators allowed the students to practice making 9-1-1 calls. "They were able to talk to an operator. They got to go through the whole process," said Carolyn Books, guidance counselor at Glenwood.

"Glenwood rates above a 10 to me," raved Daniels. "It's about family, it's about educating your children, it's about giving them the help — and they recognize every child," she added. "Every child in that school has the opportunity to become citizen of the month. I love that school and both Ashley and I love her teacher — Ms. Martin," Daniels convincingly noted.

A combination of the practice calls at school and Ashley's high level of maturity gave her the

knowledge and confidence to obtain prompt medical attention for her mom. It's no surprise that she wants to become a doctor someday. Without hesitation, the word "doctor" immediately rolls off her tongue when asked about her occupational aspirations.

It's also no surprise that family and friends call Ashley "Grandma Dorothy," because she seems wise beyond her years. And Ashley's own grandmother, Judy Williams-Gobert, is extremely proud of her granddaughter's 9-1-1 success. However, she's not overly surprised because she says she knows Ashley to be a fast learner with good retention.

"She's only five going on 21," she laughed.

After Ashley placed the 9-1-1 call, she kept her composure as she fetched her 12-year-old sister from the shower. While her sister took over the telephone call, Ashley went to call on the help of a neighbor. Just as an example of Ashley's attention to detail, when asked for clarification that it was her next-door neighbor that she called on, she said, "No, my front-door neighbors. They live in front of us."

Although one might expect Ashley to have been rather emotionally disturbed over the sight of her mother unconsciously lying on the floor, it was Ashley's 9-year-old brother who was having a more difficult time handling it.

"My brother was crying," said Ashley, "and at first my sister thought we were playing."

Daniels feels indebted to Glenwood and State Farm Insurance for providing this training to the students. She says that the thought of "what if Ashley hadn't received this training" continues to frighten her. She added that although she has discussed the 9-1-1 topic with her older children, she admits and is sorry for not having had the same conversation with her youngest daughter — but thanks to Glenwood and State Farm Insurance, Ashley knew exactly what to do in an emergency situation.

What's so ironic about the situation, Daniels explained, that prior to her fainting, Ashley had "been all week long singing this song — something about a down-power wire, dial 9-1-1."

As Daniels began to recall some of the lyrics to the song, she sang, "Don't panic, don't worry, don't be in a hurry — dial 9-1-1. If your house is on fire or a down-power wire, dial 9-1-1."

This certainly seems like Ashley's month for helping, because in a separate incident, when driving with her family, it was Ashley who noticed an elderly lady driver parked alongside the road in need of assistance, therefore, Ashley's mom was able to stop and stay with the lady until official help arrived.

"Ashley did not want to leave until we made sure that this woman was okay," explained Daniels.

"I feel like I love my family and stuff," said a loving Ashley, "and I just love them so much — I care about them," she continued in a reassuring tone. "It's good if you call 9-1-1 for your parents or your friends or even for your brother or sister — anyone who needs help."



Teen Good Citizens

Lynnhaven Parish Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution recently honored the DAR Good Citizens from three area high schools. To be recognized, a student must demonstrate dependability, service, leadership and patriotism in their home, school and community. The chapter presents the Good Citizens with a pin and certificate, and the name of the student is added to a school plaque. Mary W. Vose, chairman of the DAR Good Citizen Selection Committee, left, introduced this year's honorees — Elizabeth Kaloay of Kempesville High, Kisha Lynn Preston of Green Run High and Christa Lynn Bohannon of Tabernacle Baptist High.

Stepped-up campaign by private contractors leads to SPSA response

Continued From Page 1

contracting with private companies would be.

Councilman Louis R. Jones said that it was important to at least have a landfill instead of being completely dependent on private enterprise.

Councilwoman Barbara Henley asked whether had considered automated recycling. Virginia Beach pulled out of the SPSA curbside recycling program recently and decided to use recycling centers, which were increased, until a better system is found.

Curling said that the cost of automated recycling is prohibitive. The containers alone cost \$50 to \$60 — \$5 million for Virginia Beach alone, and that doesn't count the vehicles that would be needed. He said that most Virginia localities use the SPSA two-sort system-curb-side collection where papers and all the other recyclables are separated at the curb and the non-paper items sorted again at the plant.

Before the current expansion to the SPSA landfill in Suffolk was decided an analysis of bids by private contractors showed that the expansion will save SPSA \$7.5 to \$8.3 million over the next five years.

Curling said that SPSA is now looking at another expansion to the landfill beyond years 2013-2015.

He said he would probably recommend to the SPSA Board, whose members are the mayors of the member communities with the managers serving as alternates, that alternate methods of financing this future expansion be considered. At present the board has created a subcommittee to study the financing.

While now SPSA's receives its funds from fees, an assessment program is being considered as an option. That is, a tax would be assessed in the member

communities.

Curling pointed out that SPSA has no authority to levy assessments, which is the prerogative only of the localities.

Oberdorff said that no decisions have been made about assessments, that the subcommittee is still deliberating.

Private contractors, apparently, do not want SPSA to go into any more debt that would tie the communities to the public authority.

SPSA was set up to receive all the waste in Southeastern Virginia at its land fill or its waste to energy plant in Portsmouth, Curling said. But in the early 1990s nine major landfills were built by private firms on the assumption that they would receive waste from the northeastern states.

However, On Oct. 9, 1993, the owners were ordered to close the landfills because they did not meet standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA later permitted the companies to keep the operations open but they were allowed only to expand vertically, not horizontally. That hurt chances of getting trash from the Northeast.

In 1995, SPSA was dealt a blow when the Supreme Court ruled that local government could not say where its waste would be disposed of, Curling said. He said the Supreme Court took away the ability of local government to keep the solid waste from leaving Southeastern Virginia.

Councilwoman Barbara Henley pointed out that SPSA's contract with the localities expires in 2017; the time between that date and 2013-2015 is a short time frame to start on another landfill expansion.

Curling said that SPSA goes out of existence in 2023 under its 50-year charter. Then the communities will have to decide what to do.

Storyteller brings folk tales to life

By ABBIE BALSMEIER
Sun Intern

At Windsor Oaks Elementary there's a squirrel, a rabbit, a turtle, a chicken and a lion.

They visited there last week to tell a story that taught an important lesson to students.

The five animals were played by four students from Windsor Oaks and a teacher from the school.

The narrator was Art Johnson, coordinator of outreach programs at the Department of African-American Interpretation and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

As he told a colorful tale, the four little creatures willingly and quite convincingly acted out the roles of the four helpless herbivores.

These four creatures lived in Africa in a place where fire had destroyed all vegetation and them without water. The animals gathered together to make a plan to get water from the lion who was guarding the only water well left. The chicken tried first, but failed.

Then the squirrel, who did the same. But, it was the cunning, sharp mind of the rabbit who finally tricked the lion into thinking the reflection of himself in the water was actually another lion.

The lion, who was a possessive, territorial creature, dove into the well to destroy the lion, but, instead, drowned.

The four little animals finally got the water they desired.

The moral of the story lies in the sharp, collected mind of the rabbit. Instead of using physical strength to defeat the lion, the rabbit used her mind, which turned out to be much more effective and powerful.

This African-American fable was just one lesson, among many, that students at Windsor Oaks learned last Tuesday during a one-hour assembly.

Johnson and two African-American interpreters, Harriot Lomax and Emily James, said their job is to interpret the lives of African-Americans up to the 19th century.

They were invited to the school to help students and teachers celebrate African-American History Month during February.

"The program is designed to reach students who could not come to the museum," Johnson said.

He said he hopes their presentation will stimulate the discussion of slavery.

When the three interpreters began their presentation, Johnson asked the crowd of students what a slave was.

One student raised his hand and said, "A slave is someone who works for another person."

Johnson then asked the student in reply, "Do you work for your teacher?"

"Yes," the student replied.

"Are you a slave then?" Johnson asked.

"No!" replied the entire student body in accord.

Johnson continued to ask students what a slave was, but no one could answer correctly, proving there were a lot of misconceptions about slavery.

Johnson then told students his definition of a slave.

"A slave is a human being that is owned. A slave is a human piece of property," he said.

After teaching students about the continent of Africa, it was time to play a little music as African-Americans would have up to the 19th century.

Students helped by putting their hands together to create a combination of rhythms.

"It's important for all the children to see history in a positive light," said PTA member Cindy Mosley said.

This year was the first year the school has had special guests to help celebrate African-American History Month.

"I've always wondered why they didn't have anything to celebrate Black History Month."

"I thought the kids should be exposed to African-American history," Mosley said.

Teacher, Debbie DeLugo, said she thinks teaching young students about the history helps them understand their world today.

"The children are living in a world where cultures are mixed," DeLugo said.



THE STORYTELLER. Art Johnson from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation performed before a breathless crowd of students at Windsor Oaks Elementary School as part of African-American History Month festivities.

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SAFETY FIRST. Safe boating courses are routinely offered by the Coast Guard, with one under way now in Virginia Beach and another planned in March.

Photo by Jane Rowe

Safety first: Coast Guard boating course imperative

By JANE ROWE
Sun Correspondent

If Russell Brubaker has one message to send to area boaters it's this: "Don't be a casualty."

"Don't have an accident, don't be a search and rescue," said Brubaker, a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. "Know the laws, read the markers, and know how to read the charts so you can avoid shallow water and not get lost."

Brubaker and other members of the local auxiliary aim to teach boaters how to avoid becoming a statistic in their boating safety classes, offered this winter and spring in conjunction with the Virginia Beach Public Schools adult learning program.

A safety course in powerboating began this week, and another will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from April 8-May 22 at "First Colonial" High School. Sailing buffs can take a class in sailing safety on at that school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from March 11-May 8.

There are two major obstacles to boating safety in this area, Brubaker said.

The first is failure to wear a life jacket, and the second is the danger of developing hypothermia if the boat capsizes. Other problems include shallow water, the possibility of running into jet skiers, and sometimes, the boaters' lack of knowledge about how to handle the boat.

"The accident rate with jet skiers is going sky-high," Brubaker said. "And usually when there's an accident the boaters aren't wearing safety jackets. There aren't any laws in this state that require children to wear the jackets," and many boaters avoid them because they want to look macho, he added.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary, a civilian, volunteer organization, hopes to teach boaters the basics of water safety, including how to make a "May Day" call, or a call for help, how to tie knots, and what to do if you're submerged in chilly waters. The classes are open to anyone, Brubaker said, from potential or beginning boaters to more seasoned sailors who might need to brush up on their safety practices.

Brubaker, who's been boating since he moved to Virginia Beach in 1968, said that too often people buy boats on impulse without knowing how to handle them.

"Sometimes people buy boats and then they're too scared to take them away from the dock," Brubaker said. "As a first time boater, I made a few mistakes, then I took a safety course."

Just getting out on the water can be tricky if you aren't skilled at maneuvering the boat, he said, and securing it can be another problem if your knot-tying skills aren't up to par.

Novice boaters also sometimes don't know how to read the warning signs that indicate bad weather and even skilled boaters can get caught in a sudden storm. Brubaker hopes that his students will learn what to do if they're caught up in bad weather or if they take a plunge into icy water.

Surviving in cold, or even cool water is "a time machine," Brubaker said, that depends on the water temperature and the person's

ability to handle the cold. Children tend to develop hypothermia more quickly than adults, but everyone can prolong their chances of survival if they follow a few basic tips.

"Don't swim," Brubaker said, "just float or huddle. If you can, get two or three people to float together, and try to stay together."

Clothing can also help, he added. A hunter who survived for several hours in near-freezing water of the North Carolina Outer banks recently was wearing hip waders which probably kept the cold water from circulating around his legs. Life jackets also help to insulate against the cold, but it's best if you can climb out of the water and cover with a blanket.

Safety and public education are the main missions of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, which has about 60 members locally, Brubaker said. The members "take classes so that we can teach ourselves and others," and the main point that they want to drive home is to always wear your life jacket. "They won't work if you don't wear them" was the theme of a recent safety week drive, Brubaker said.

Auxiliary members conduct the boating safety classes informally, and they hope to project a friendly, non-threatening image to area boaters. "We try to engage the class in conversation, he said. "Going to school can be a real chore for adults, because it requires a particular mindset. We like to think our classes are kind of fun."

"Our job is to help, we're not involved in law enforcement, and although we wear the same uniforms as members of the Coast Guard, we can't write tickets." Auxiliary members will also inspect your boat for safety, and Brubaker urges boaters to call a toll-free boating safety hotline at 1-800-368-5647 if they have questions about safety. For more information about the boating safety classes, call the adult learning center at 519-9960.

LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notice

Auction: 1990 EAGLE PREMIER (A6272)
Serial: 2E3CB66U6H701284
Auction Date: FEBRUARY 27, 1997

Time: 11:00 a.m. at Norfolk Motor Company, 7000 N. Military Hwy Norfolk, Va 23518. Norfolk Motor Company reserves the right to bid.

Public Notice

Auction: 1983 SUBARU GL (A6350)
Serial: JF1AW43B1DB309080
Auction Date: FEBRUARY 27, 1997

Time: 11:00 a.m. at Norfolk Motor Company, 7000 N. Military Hwy Norfolk, Va 23518. Norfolk Motor Company reserves the right to bid.

7-03
11-2-14

Public Notice

Take notice that on February 14, 1997 at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1989 Dodge Caravan
Serial # 1B44FK543KX66634
7-05
11-2-14

Public Notice

Take notice that on February 10, 1997 at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1988 Chevrolet Astro Van
Serial # 2GNDM1523JB225898
7-06
11-2-14

Public Notice

Auction: 1980 BUICK RIVIERA (6143)
Serial: 4Z5TRA6405473
Auction Date: FEBRUARY 27, 1997

Time: 11:00 a.m. at Norfolk Motor Company, 7000 N. Military Hwy Norfolk, Va 23518. Norfolk Motor Company reserves the right to bid.

7-02
11-2-14

Public Notice

Take notice that on February 14, 1997 at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1992 Dodge B-250 Maxi Van
Serial # 2B7HB21YXNK123694
7-07
11-2-14

Public Notice

Take notice that on January 31, 1997, at 10:00 A.M. at the premises of 4747 Shore Dr. Va Beach, Va. the undersigned will sell at Public Auction, for cash, reserving unto itself the right to bid, the following vehicle.

1997 Buick Century Sedan
Serial # 1GA4AH54NBM6444712
7-01
11-2-14

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia will be held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Building, Municipal Center, Princess Anne Station, Virginia Beach, Virginia, on Tuesday, February 25, 1997 at 6:30 p.m., at which time the following applications will be heard:

SUBDIVISION VARIANCE: LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH
1. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance, Subdivision for Steve Frazier & Dr. Fitzhugh Mayo. Property is located on the west side of S. Woodside Lane, south of Keelingwood Court. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH

2. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance for Naginder S. & Sharanjit K. Dhillion. Property is located at 3542 Glen Arden Road. KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH.

STREET CLOSURE: BAYSIDE BOROUGH

3. Application of C&C Development, L.L.C. for the discontinuance, closure and abandonment of a portion of Pleasure House Road located on the east side of Pleasure House Road beginning at a point 123.17 feet south of Andrew Jackson Lane, running a distance of 50.42 feet along the east side of Pleasure House Road, running around a curve a distance of 19.81 feet, running a distance of 66.13 feet along the eastern property line and running a distance of 17.37 feet along the northern property line. Said parcel is variable in width and contains 836 square feet. BAYSIDE BOROUGH LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH

4. Application of The Runnymede Corporation for the discontinuance, closure and abandonment of the following streets:

Pine Street: Beginning at the northern boundary of Fourth Street and running in a northerly direction a distance of 499.40 feet. Said

parcel is 66.02 feet in width.

Third Street: Beginning at the northeastern intersection of Pine Street and Third Street and running in an easterly direction a distance of 412.84 feet. Said parcel is 50.02 feet in width.

Poplar Street: Beginning at the northern boundary of Fourth Street and running in a northerly direction a distance of 499.40 feet. Said parcel is 66 feet in width. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH. CHANGE OF ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION: LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH

An ordinance upon Application of Martin L. Jr., and Margaret W. Cornick for a Change of Zoning District Classification on the following parcels:

Parcel 1: From R-7.5 Residential District to B-2 Community Business District on certain property located at the southeast corner of Third Street and Pine Street.

Parcel 2: From B-2 Community Business District to R-7.5 Residential District on certain property located at the southeast corner of Fourth Street and Pine Street.

The proposed zoning classification change to B-2 is for commercial land use. The proposed zoning classification change to R-7.5 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 7,500 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of these parcels for business/research center use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 6.10 acres. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT: LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH

6. An ordinance upon Application of Drivers Mart of Virginia, L.L.C., for a Conditional Use Permit for motor vehicle sales, rental and repair on certain property located on the west side of Rosemont Road beginning at a point 400 feet more or less north of South Boulevard. Said parcel contains 14 acres more or less. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

7. An ordinance upon Application of Mother Seton House, Inc., T/A Seton House for a Conditional Use Permit for a group home on certain property located at the southeast corner of N. Lynnhaven Road and Edinburg Drive. Said parcel contains 3.16 acres. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

8. Motion of the City of Virginia Beach to amend and reorganize Section 111 of the City Zoning Ordinance pertaining to definition of a lodging unit. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Ruth Hodges Smith, CMC/AEE City Clerk

If you are physically disabled or visually impaired and need assistance at this meeting, please call the CITY CLERK'S OFFICE at 427-4303. Hearing impaired, call TDD only 427-4305 (TDD Telephonic Device for the Deaf)

6-01
21-2-21

Public Notice

Order of Publication Commonwealth of Virginia Virginia Beach Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re: Roger Allen Golsen; Rayla Annette Young; Dana Raye Young

The object of this suit is to: Obtain the entry of an Order of custody for Roger Allen Golsen, born May 9, 1982 Rayla Annette Young, born March 12, 1984, and Dana Raye Young, born May 11, 1991 to be awarded to Roger Alan Young.

It is ORDERED that the Defendant Donna Raye Young, appear at the above-named Court and 3-6-97 at 11:00 A.M.

-Frederick C. Jenks, III, Clerk of Court

1-24-97
BY: V.M. Barnard
Deputy Clerk

5-03
41-2-21

Public Notice

VIRGINIA: IN THE VIRGINIA BEACH CIRCUIT COURT CLERKS OFFICE

IN RE: Robert W. Lewis, Jr. Plaintiff V. Tijuana R. Lewis Defendant

ORDER OF PUBLICATION CASE NO. CH96-3874

The object of this suit is for the said Plaintiff to obtain a divorce A Vinculo Matrimonii on the grounds that parties have been separated without interruption and without cohabitation exceeding a period over one year.

It is ORDERED that Tijuana R. Lewis appear and protect her

interest, on or before March 5, 1997, which date is no sooner than fifty days after entry of this order of publication.

And it is further ORDERED that this order of publication be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Virginia Beach Sun, a newspaper of general circulation in this City prescribed by this court.

Jan. 13, 1997
DATE
J. CURTIS FRUIT, CLERK
By Bill Maul
Deputy Clerk

4-01
41-2-14

Public Notice

VIRGINIA: IN THE VIRGINIA BEACH CIRCUIT COURT CLERKS OFFICE IN RE:

WILLIAM EDWARD CHILDRESS Plaintiff V. SANDRA COCHRAN CHILDRESS Defendant

ORDER OF PUBLICATION - CASE NO. CH97-288

The object of this suit is for the said plaintiff, William Edward Childress, to obtain a divorce a vinculo matrimonii from the defendant, Sandra Cochran Childress, upon the grounds of one (1) year's separation pursuant to Section 20-91(9) of the code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

It is ORDERED that Sandra Cochran Childress appear and protect her interest, on or before March 26th, 1997, which date is no sooner than fifty days after entry of this order of publication.

And it is further ORDERED that this order of publication be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Virginia Beach Sun, a newspaper of general circulation in this City prescribed by this court.

January 31, 1997
DATE
J. CURTIS FRUIT, CLERK
By Bill Maul

4-01
41-2-21

CITY LINE ROAD City of Virginia Beach City of Chesapeake

Citizen Information/Participation Meeting

Meeting:

Wednesday, February 26, 1997 * Anytime between 4:00pm and 8:00pm To be held in the Centerville Elementary School located at 2201 Centerville Turnpike in the City of Virginia Beach.

Purpose:

To provide interested citizens an opportunity to informally review and discuss, with Department personnel, the feasibility study information for proposed City Line Road under consideration between Indian River Road and Ellbow Road in the City of Virginia Beach and Providence Road and Military Highway in the City of Chesapeake.

Comments:

Written comments and other exhibits relative to the feasibility study may be submitted at the meeting or sent to the Department at any time within 10 days after the meeting.

Special Assistance:

If you require additional information or special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting please contact:
Norfolk Residency: 1-888-723-8401 (toll free)

Virginia Department of Transportation

Device for the Hearing Impaired (TTY): 1-800-307-4630

Project: U000-134-V40, PE-101 * Federal Project: STP-5403 (403)

LASKIN ROAD Route 58 City of Virginia Beach

Second Citizen Involvement Meeting

Meeting:

Wednesday, February 19, 1997 ** Anytime between 4:00pm and 8:00pm To be held in the Linkhorn Park Elementary School located at 1413 Laskin Road in the City of Virginia Beach.

Purpose:

To provide interested citizens an opportunity to informally review and discuss the preliminary information concerning the improvements to Laskin Road (Route 58) from Great Neck Road (Route 279) to Pacific Avenue (Route 60) in the City of Virginia Beach.

Comments:

Written comments and other exhibits relative to the proposed project may be submitted at the meeting or sent to the Department at any time within 10 days after the meeting.

Special Assistance:

If you require additional information or special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting please contact:
Norfolk Residency: 1-888-723-8401 (toll free)

Virginia Department of Transportation

Device for the Hearing Impaired (TTY): 1-800-307-4630

Project: 0058-134-V03, PE-101, RW-201, C-501

Federal Project: STP-5403 (407)

Project: 0058-134-V02, PE-101, RW-201, C-501

Federal Project: STP-5403 (252)

Project: 0058-134-V04, PE-101, RW-201, C-501

Federal Project: STP-5403 (409)

Teen steppers keep African art form alive

BY PENNY A. POWELL
Sun Correspondent

Virginia Beach School students were stepping, stomping and storytelling at Central Library on Sunday.

In commemoration of Black History Month, students from Beach schools decorated the stage with step routines and dramatic storytelling — art forms associated with African-American history.

Teachers, parents, students and other spectators flooded the library's auditorium. It became so full that after about 30 minutes into the program that the safety code of the room was being violated — those standing at the back of the room and along the aisles were forced to find seats or were otherwise to leave the room.

However, the event was so entertaining that no one wanted to depart until the show was completely over.

Soon after the code violation announcement was made, the library's auditorium was shy of 12 students, who became the focus of attention in the lobby as they practiced a routine that would soon dazzle the full-house. Representing Kempesville High School, they call themselves The Touch of Class Step Team.

"It's 12 of us right now," said 10th grader Nykee Woodhouse, "but normally we have about 16 in our group."

The group only took two days to coordinate the routine that they would be performing in honor of Black History Month.

The art of "stepping" originated from African dance and rhythms and today, step shows are a popular form of competitive expression amongst the African-American Greek fraternities and sororities. Music may or may not be used while stepping and when a performance is music-free, sounds from feet stomping, hand



Photos by Penny Powell

STEP TO IT. Parents were beaming with pride Sunday as step dance teams from throughout the city performed at the Virginia Beach Central Library before a packed audience.

clapping and the stepper's voices are loud and clear. As Chief Petty Officer Frankie Bazemore briskly headed out the door to support another Black History Month engagement, he gave his thoughts about the entertainment provided by Beach students.

"It was very nice, very inspirational," he said. "I had never been to one before — it was very multicultural, unique and well-prepared."

Although Bazemore praised everyone's participation, he said that he particularly liked a church-associated group who incorporated prayer throughout their routine.

"I believe it's called The Children of the Sun group," he said.

Nicole Robinson, a 15-year-old student from Salem High School, did an outstanding storytelling performance of an African-American folktale written by Virginia Hamilton.

Robinson, who appears to be a naturally-gifted storyteller, just weeks ago took first place in Tidewater's Forensic League story-telling competition. She said that she had been working on Sunday's piece since about November.

Summarizing her rendition of Hamilton's piece, Robinson said, "There's an arrogant lion and he



thinks that he is the king of the forest, but he's shown by a rabbit and a bear that man is the real king of the forest and he's just another animal."

In Hamilton's book "Her Stories — African American Folktales, Fairy Tales and True Tales, readers are told that "the close relationship between humans and animals is an important subject in African American folktales. In 'Her Animal Tales,' deceptions, hoaxes, tricks, conjure, and creation are played out with human and animal participants on a broad, folkloric stage."

Robinson's parents, Calvin Jr. and Iris Robinson, were amongst Sunday's crowd and they had this to say about their daughter's

talent and stunning performance: "I enjoy it (Nicole's storytelling), but I don't know where it came from," said Robinson's mother with a laugh, "other than she likes to read. She's always enjoyed reading, so I guess that's where it stemmed from," she reasoned.

"I'm very proud of Nicole and she has really inspired me to try and attend more of these performances," said Nicole's other number one fan — her dad. There was no hiding the pride that parents had for their children who were paying tribute to the history of African-American culture — the parents appeared to have a special glow about them.

Vets get hand up, not handout

By LINDA ALEXANDER
Sun Intern

They served their country selflessly and somehow fell on hard times. They have worked in warehouses, professional fields and computers. Some are Old Dominion University graduates.

While many of them would rather sleep in the woods than ask for help, some of them are making the effort to help themselves.

In Virginia Beach, one organization is helping homeless American veterans to piece their lives back together.

Vet's House owns three eight-roomed houses in Virginia Beach — a duplex on Oceana Boulevard, a duplex on Carver Lane and a one family house on 26th Street. Not only do they house veterans for up to a year, they also help them secure employment through job training programs, some of which guarantee job placement.

"I want people to see it not as a handout, but as a hand up," says Charlotte Holtry, executive director.

Vet's House is not a shelter. It's a transitional program for people down on their luck. It is designed to get veterans back on their feet so they can get jobs and find their own place to live again.

The organization gives its residents one important thing: an address. Without an address, you can't vote or even complete a job application.

"It's really a home, not a shelter." That's what Holtry says separates these residents from other victims of homelessness.

"Some shelters are huge; it almost seems like they're herding cattle in and out. People may sleep in churches, shower somewhere else, and then go elsewhere to get their meals."

The organization is funded by donations. Because the homeless groups in the area work together, Vet's House has been able to keep the houses running. For example, a lot of the food for Vet's House has come from Food Bank. In the few weeks since Holtry has been with Vet's House, she has acquired a television, paper towels and carpet for one of the houses.

But there is still not enough to go around. The houses always need more food and could use materials like paint and a pressure washer to fix them up.

Transportation is another hardship.

"It's hard enough for me to look for a job with a car," said Holtry. "These guys have to rely on public transportation to get to job interviews."

There is also the case of refusing employment due to lack of a ride to work.

"One man was offered an evening position, but he couldn't get a bus after a certain time of night. He had to hang around for three or four hours before work

just so he could get there every night." Holtry suggested that a company could donate a van to the cause, or that individual volunteers could sometimes drive them to interviews.

The three HUD homes are leased for \$1 a year. When the lease is up, Vet's House is required to purchase the houses or give them up. One lease is up in November and the others next February. Without the money to purchase them, 20 people will be homeless again. Above all, says Holtry, the veterans need job offers.

The residents of Vet's House may be homeless for different reasons, but they have one thing in common: the desire to get their lives back.

With the Virginia Beach-based Vet's House, they can do just that. They now have a chance to set their minds at ease about where their next meal will come from and instead focus on their futures.

One resident heard about Vet's House from a television ad about three years ago, when the organization was just getting started.

"I thank God for Vet's House. I maintain faith in Vet's House and maintain faith in the system," he said, preferring not to give his name.

Though he served during the Vietnam War, he doesn't feel like the country owes him

anything.

"I did what I did for the country because I wanted to. I ask what I can do help myself, not what the country can give me to me."

Another said, "I want to be secure with my everyday life. Vet's House gives me that stability. I see it as a home. I fell on hard economic times, and now I feel I am able to get my life back."

Like other public housing, Vet's House has rules.

The residents must pass drug and alcohol tests in order to stay. No alcohol or smoking is permitted on the premises. They do their own cooking and cleaning. And after securing employment, the veterans are required to give 30 percent of their net income back to Vet's House to keep the households running.

Because the program is a transition to a better life, the veterans are encouraged to start savings accounts so they may save enough money to get their own apartment — enough for the security deposit, first month's rent, and to have their utilities turned on.

Vet's House is in need of volunteers and donations. Their biggest needs are food, transportation and employment opportunities for the veterans. For more information, call Holtry at 468-8614.

Reliving those 'doo wop' memories

Continued From Page 1

salad, coffee and dessert. The price for the evening is \$99 per couple.

As of early this week, Turner was dismayed at the prospect of not being able to make his wish come true — to perform one last time at Sir Richard's.

But a standing engagement at the Palace Station Casino for the same night makes it tough for Turner to rearrange his schedule.

Instead, entertainment will be provided by the Sounds of the Dividers, a group that used to appear at the club.

The idea for the reunion surfaced about three months ago at Baumann's restaurant, Rockafellers, as he and Johnny Hodges, a former Sir Richard's act, reminisced.

"They were all laughing and saying, 'Why don't we do this?'" explained Larry Cullen, Rockafellers manager.

Baumann picked up the ball and ran with the idea, contacting several former acts, including Turner.

The idea has snowballed and the excitement has grown.

"We've had an overwhelming response on it," said Cullen, who

is helping organize the affair. "All the old-timers, they'll all be here. Even some of the old staff will be here. Some of them will be working, but most of them will be on the other side of the table."

Although Cullen never went to Sir Richard's, the reunion has certainly piqued his curiosity.

"I've been hearing about Sir Richard's since I came to the beach seven years ago," he laughed. "It's still fresh in everybody's head."

The mystique of the club still lingers.

"The atmosphere there was terrific, and I'm not the only one who remembers that," stated

Morris, who played Sir Richard's as leader of the dance band Sunny Days Revue. "A few years ago I was speaking to Natalie Cole, and she told me she still looks back on the summer she played at Sir Richard's as one of the best times of her life."

So now, Baumann is bringing it all back for just one night not only for himself, but for the old-timers.

"They remember the way it was," he said. "They remember the fun. They remember he action."

There is a limit of 400 tickets available for the reunion. For more information, call Rockafellers Restaurant at 422-5654.

November preparations

Continued From Page 2

places raises of 2 percent projected last year. It will also provide the state's share of money to give public school teachers a raise of 4 percent next year, instead of 2 percent.

Where Allen proposed only another \$116,000 for state colleges in his budget amendments, assembly money committees want \$30 million more — mainly for faculty raises. Social services would get \$6 million more and natural resources (the environment) another \$4.5 million.

To hire 105 more state troopers and to help localities match existing federal grants for police, which Beyer has vowed to burnish his anti-crime image, another \$12.5 million was found. Of course, finding qualified police applicants is the real problem.

Gone was the governor's recommendation that \$21 million of the surplus be held in a rainy-day fund. Democrats wanted every penny to make political points now and Republicans were pleased to join them. Any idea of general tax relief is dead

and buried.

But Democrats are also robbing. Republicans of some of their old, reliable social issues' ammunition — by passing them! At long last, bills are going through the assembly requiring parents (or others) to be notified when a minor wants an abortion. Also passing, apparently, are bills to ban partial-birth abortions and to require physicians to get "informed written consent" from those seeking an abortion.

Knowing their vocal pro-choice constituency has no place else to go, Democrats feel safe yielding a little ground on the fringe of the great abortion debate. They know most voters favor parental notification and are agnostic at the partial-birth procedure — if they know what it is.

They don't want their candidates beaten over the head on these side issues, any more than Republicans want to stand accused of failing to squeeze out every last dollar for state employees, education, etc.

Ray Garland, a former member of the Virginia General Assembly, is a syndicated columnist.

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CHILDREN'S CORNER

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Fun for all ages, the peanut butter, honey and dry milk are combined and then formed, like modeling clay, into balls, animals or other favorite shapes.

To alleviate stickiness, coat each shape with chopped peanuts.

Pour peanuts into a plate or shallow bowl; set aside.

In a medium-sized bowl, combine peanut butter and honey. Stir in dry milk, mixing well; dough will be the consistency of modeling clay.

Form dough into quarter-sized balls (or other favorite shapes). Roll each in the peanuts until coated. Yields four dozen.

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Progress '97

Portsmouth, Virginia



Portsmouth: setting a stage for the future in all aspects of life

By KENNETH M. WHEELER

When historians of the 21st century look back, 1996 may be remembered as the year that Portsmouth turned the corner.

In many ways 1996 set the stage for the future in a city that was founded on the shores of the Elizabeth River in 1752, almost 250 years ago.

Under the leadership of new Mayor James W. Holley III, the Portsmouth City Council and City Manager Ronald W. Massie, who completed his first year as the city's top administrative official, Portsmouth was on the move.

A good example is city finances. Because of sound fiscal management and the improving economy, Deputy City Manager Johnna Whitaker reported that the city government closed the 1995-96 fiscal year with \$6 million to add to the city's fund balance — a major goal of the city council.

At the end of 1996, the Portsmouth Police Department, under Chief Dennis Mook, had extended its Neighborhood Enhancement and Action Teams (NEAT) community policing program to all neighborhoods of the community. Portsmouth was among 20 cities recognized by the National League of Cities (NLC) for excellence in community policing. The NLC, in association with the Justice Department, selected the NEAT program as one of the best in the country from among 420 cities competing.

In addition to building bridges between the police and neighborhood residents all over the city, the NEAT program also paid off in a dramatic reduction in major crime in Portsmouth.

The year also marked significant progress in the Vision 2005 program, which had focused on task forces chaired by city council members in five major segments of the city and was extended by year's end to Cradock.

Vision 2005 planning started showing visible results, such as the High Street Landing, a new gateway to the downtown financed half by federal funding and scheduled for opening in May of 1997. Several other Vision 2005

beginning coming out of the ground during 1996.

Numerous other community and economic development projects were under way during the year. Work began on a major renovation of the Holiday Inn-Old Towne Portsmouth, the city's primary hotel for meetings, scheduled for completion in the spring of 1997. Progress was also made on plans for a new hotel and convention center on the downtown waterfront.

City council approved plans for more than \$20 million new residential, health care and commercial investments on the 22-acre former Churchland High School site on High Street.

The plan includes 66 condominium units in an upscale development called Sterling Cove, a 77-unit assisted-care facility by Maryview Medical Center, a 50,000-square-foot Hannaford Brothers grocery store, a 10,000-square-foot retail store and two outparcels for family restaurants or stores. The development is expected to generate 240 new jobs and at least \$300 million in annual new tax revenues.

On the industrial scene, Lindab Inc. announced plans to triple its Airline Boulevard plant to 160,400 square feet, employing 50 more people at \$34,000 average salaries and adding \$100,000 to tax revenues after the \$7.1 million.

The city also saw new residential development during the year. Admiral's Landing, an eight-story luxury condominium on the Elizabeth River, aggressively marketed its 61 units and sold most of them, with many being occupied by the year's end.

A new development called Lake Shores went under construction on the former site of the once notorious River Edge Apartments near substantial communities like Glenshellah and Port Norfolk.

The Lake Shores development features \$105,000 to \$130,000 single family homes built around a new four-acre lake. The real estate assessment of that one development will increase from \$500,000 to \$17 million, producing an extra \$200,000 a

year in real estate taxes.

City Manager Massie formed a new Development Action Team (DAT) coordinated by Plans and Policy Officer Steve Herbert. DAT assembled a lengthy list of active projects and made substantial progress on activities planned for the Cox property, Fairwood Homes, shopping centers in midtown and PortCentre, among others.

While Economic Development Director Matthew James continued progress on various projects, the city's marketing efforts also moved forward with the formation of a new marketing group, selection of a new marketing and advertising agency to work with the city, development of a three-year plan with a detailed budget, and the year-end merger of three departments — Marketing and Communications, Convention and Visitors Bureau and Museums — into one new marketing unit for the city.

Another area of progress was in the city's military commands, which have been a major part of the city's economy for many years. While the Coast Guard moved its Atlantic command staff to Portsmouth, the Naval Medical Center continued work on construction of a \$330 million facility scheduled to open in the spring of 1998.

The Norfolk Naval Shipyard not only welcomed the aircraft carrier George Washington for six months, but also noted the arrival of eight destroyers in two destroyer squadrons that were assigned to be convenience berthed in the Portsmouth yard. Under the leadership of shipyard commander Capt. William R. Klemm, more than 2,500 crew members of the destroyers are calling Portsmouth home.

The city also entered a new era of renewed relations with its military friends and neighbors under the auspices of a new Military Affairs Committee chaired by new city councilman J. Thomas Benn III.

In many ways, 1996 was a remarkable year for Portsmouth, a year of new beginnings and new activities to prepare the city for the 21st century and beyond.



Portsmouth is on the move

Dear readers:

The city of Portsmouth is on the move, thanks to the leadership of the city council and City Manager Ronald W. Massie and his city management team and the involvement

and commitment of business and community leaders of the city.

It is especially heartening to note the involvement of so many of our citizens in the affairs of their city, whether it is in the award-winning NEAT community policing program, or in the Vision 2005 community development program, and on one of the 50 boards and commissions which advise the mayor and the city council on various



components of the life of our community.

It is this involvement and commitment which will revitalize our city and give us the impetus for growth and development which will make our city the most desirable possible place for people to live, work, play or visit.

I especially want to thank the members of the city council, who are no figureheads of our government but are actively involving themselves in the lives of our community. They chair task forces of the Vision 2005 program, work with various boards and commissions, and get out into the community to talk first-hand with our citizens and learn their needs and concerns.

So I give a special salute to Vice Mayor Johnny M. Clemons and to councilmen J. Thomas Benn III, Bernard R. Griffin Sr., James M. Martin, Cameron C. Pitts and P. Ward Robinett Jr. Working with me, they have formed a community leadership team to serve all of our citizens.

We have had many announcements, groundbreakings and ribbon-cuttings in recent months, which bodes well for our future. All over the city we see progress and the promise of more to come.

When I was sworn in as mayor of this historic seaport city last July, I promised to treat everyone like family, because that is who we are — we ARE the "Portsmouth Family."


Together we can build a bright future for this community, for the young and old alike. Portsmouth is on the move.

Dr. James W. Holley III
Mayor of Portsmouth

On the Cover...

Photos on the front page are (clockwise from upper left): Members of the Portsmouth Norfolk Bar Association volunteer for Habitat for Humanity; Members of the Sheriff's Office at the Special Olympics Torch Run; Virginia's top elementary school principal Gordon Ellsworth, principal at Douglas Park Air and Space Elementary School; Marie Kjar, Miss Portsmouth Seawall '96; and (center) High Street Landing project under construction.

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Hydraulic Service Company: the 'little industrial giant' is Portsmouth's best kept secret

Service stressed
at four-decade
old business

Service is the basic concept upon which Hydraulic Service Company Inc. was established nearly four decades ago.

At the time the firm was launched, the Short Brothers were well established in the service station business.

They were having difficulties having their own hydraulic and pneumatic equipment repaired. They were well aware of the need they set out to fulfill.

They realized that there was a genuine need for a company that specialized in these types of repairs. With that premise in mind, Hydraulic Service Company was founded in 1956.

Today Hydraulic Service Company represents more than 100 major product lines and according to D. B. Short,

president "Service is still our primary emphasis. And we feel that we have one very distinct advantage over most other equipment distributors that we offer service on all of the products we sell.

*They realized
there was a need
for a company
that specialized
in these types of
repairs.*

"And that really means a lot to the customer, knowing that parts and service are available after you have purchased the product. Service is and will always be the backbone of our company," reiterated Short.

If you mention Hydraulic Service Company's name in the marine, the industrial or the

construction community you quickly realize that Hydraulic Service Company is "a little industrial giant." Hydraulic Service Company has a complete machine shop to

complement its service department and has the capabilities to manufacture many parts and units to help reduce the customers down time.

They also have a complete lubricating and pneumatics department to handle all portable tools and air compressors.

The firm is located at 3215 Portsmouth Boulevard.

With more than 40 employees, Hydraulic Service Company may be Portsmouth's best kept industrial secret.

"We are simply not consumer-oriented," said Short.

"However we do have a lot to offer the average customer in the hand tool and portable equipment line," he said.

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Vision 2005 initiatives moving forward

During the past few months, the city's Vision 2005 initiatives moved forward with all possible speed:

■ **High Street Landing** — Broke ground for the new development for the High Street Landing in late spring and the work continues. The project is in fact about one month ahead of schedule. Plans are being developed for the

rededication of Veteran's Park had the flag pole at the landing's opening at the end of May or the first part of June. WGOV Channel 48 aired the first in the series on Vision 2005, "Coming Alive," which covered the High Street Landing and the 600 block.

■ **600 Block** — Broke ground for the parking lot on Queen Street between

Washington and Green streets. Received city council's approval for the development of single family homes on the 600 block of London Street. Several new businesses opened in 1996. There continues to be more improvements for new properties. This project also includes the installation of the new portal on London Street at Effingham.

■ **Water Row Park** — Construction of the new park has begun along the river between the High Street Landing and City Hall. The new park will be an open, grassy park right along the seawall. The park will be anchored at the north end by a caboose from Norfolk Southern.

■ **Victory Square and Elm Avenue merchants** — Received approval from the Vision 2005 Mayor's Steering Committee to move forward with the development of senior citizen housing and community center in cooperation with Ebenezer and New Mount

Olive Baptist churches. PRHA has begun acquiring property for the project. Both churches along with PRHA are moving ahead with discussions and planning for funding options.

■ **Mid City** — The High Street Beautification Project in Midtown has been completed and the area has taken on a whole new look. Very positive discussions have taken place between the owners of the Mid City Shopping Center and the city of Portsmouth concerning renovation and rehabilitation. Plans and proposals have been

□ See VISION, Page 9



Photo by M.J. Knoback

PROGRESS. High Street Landing broke ground in early spring as part of the Vision 2005 Initiative.



File photo

ROWING REGATTA. The Crawford Bay Crew Classic, featuring the top college rowing teams in the United States, will be held April 26.



February 4

A Taste of Portsmouth
A delicious evening with Portsmouth's best restaurants.

March 7-8

Virginia's Incredible Edibles.
A made in Virginia food & wine festival.

April 26

Crawford Bay Crew Classic
A Rowing Regatta and Tailgate Party.

May 3-4

Portside Boat Show
Dealers present new and used boats, plus exhibits.

June 6-8

Seawall Festival
Children's Park, Craft Show, Golden Oldies and Beach Music.

July 18-19

Cock Island Race
The biggest and best sailing event on the East Coast.

August 15-17

Rendezvous, Mile Marker Zero
A social event for owners of powerboats and yachts.

August 23-24

Portside Boat Show
Dealers present new and used boats, plus exhibits.

October 25

A Very Special Halloween
A celebration for children with special needs.

November 21-23

Gallery Art Show
Fine Art in a gallery setting.

To create a positive image for the City of Portsmouth through special events which emphasize the Portsmouth Family Tradition and enhance the viability of the community while having a favorable economic impact.

For more information call 1-800-296-9933 or 757-393-9933

Check out upcoming Ports Events calendar

After celebrating 10 successful years of special events in Portsmouth, Ports Events announces it's 1997 calendar.

The fourth annual Virginia's Incredible Edibles follows on March 7 - 8 at The Max, 425 Water St. in Portsmouth. This Made-in-Virginia gourmet food and wine festival will feature many of Virginia's finest wineries and gourmet food distributors.

April 26 brings the Crawford Bay Crew Classic. A collegiate rowing regatta featuring some of the top rowing teams in college today.

With the spring comes the annual Portside Boat Show on May 3-4. Dealers will present new and used boats, plus many nautical exhibits.

What would summer be without the many activities of Ports Events?

It begins with the Seawall Festival, June 6 - 8, and continues with the Cock Island

Race, July 18 - 19, and the Rendezvous, Mile Marker Zero, Aug. 15 - 17.

Finally, the Portside Boat Show finishes the summer season on Aug. 23 - 24.

You'll know it's fall when Ports Events begins plans for its Very Special Halloween on Oct. 25. A celebration for children with special needs.

Finally, the 1997 season closes with Ports Events' Gallery Art Show on Nov. 21 - 23. Fine art in a gallery setting plus much more!

Ports Events works daily to achieve its mission statement: to create a positive image for the City of Portsmouth through special events which emphasize the Portsmouth Family Tradition and enhance the viability of the community while having a favorable economic impact.

For more information about any of the events, call the Ports Events Office at 393-9933 or 1-800-296-9933.

Keeping focused on a 'vision'

By VICTORIA HECHT

Vision 2005. You've read about its various projects, seen television accounts of work in action and heard it touted as "Portsmouth's future."

But how much do you really know about the strategic plan for economic and community development that will guide the city into the next millennium?

WGOV-TV, Portsmouth's municipal government station, has the answers on "Coming Alive, Vision 2005."

The latest addition to Channel 48's lineup, the 30-minute show features a series

of programs throughout 1997 designed to keep citizens informed of Vision 2005 progress.

The inaugural episode, hosted by Portsmouth chief plans and policy officer Steve Herbert, aired in January. The next episode kicks off in March.

"Coming Alive, Vision 2005" was no easy program to put on the air.

According to Carol Pratt, video services manager for WGOV, more than 70 hours went into planning, researching, filming and editing the initial program.

Covering the Downtown

Herbert and Pratt hope "Coming Alive," to be presented in a six-part series every other month, will clarify the public's understanding of Vision 2005.

Committee, one of six Vision 2005 committees, it includes footage of the activity on High Street Landing and improvements to the 600 block of London Boulevard/Washington Street. The committee is chaired by councilman P. Ward Robinett Jr., who with city engineer Richard Hartman appear on the show.

"The interesting thing about 'Coming Alive' is that you don't just come in, have people sit down on the set, wire them up and have a show. It's a lot of research, planning and footage," Pratt said. "People hear a lot about the High Street Landing and know there's activity going on down there, but the footage really brings it to life."

Herbert and Pratt hope "Coming Alive," to be presented in a six-part series every other month, will clarify the public's understanding of Vision 2005.

"A lot of things have been

going on with Vision 2005 across the city. We've got six different committees and lots of citizens involved, so we'd been looking for a way to get better exposure for the total program and better communications to the larger public," Herbert explained.

Pratt brainstormed the series, which was enthusiastically supported by city council.

Herbert offered a taste of what viewers will see on "Coming Alive" over the course of its yearlong run. Programs will focus on downtown, Effingham Boulevard/Elm Avenue, I.C. Norcom Creek School, Scott's Creek neighborhoods, MidTown, Ida Barbour and Cradock.

"My guess is we'll have each councilman in who chairs the committees, but also citizens who run those committees. For the Scott's Creek neighborhoods we have three civic leaders out there who aggressively run the committee under the leadership of councilman Jim Martin.

"On Effingham and Elm, under the vice mayor, we'll

have a session with the two churches working so hard on the Chesnut Street project — Ebenezer Baptist and New Mt. Olivet Baptist. We'll also have the business leaders on Elm Avenue who've come up with their own plans which have been approved and funded.

"Somewhere along the line, we'll also talk about Ida Barbour, which is in a much more formative stage. In the year ahead, you'll see more about that."

From a programming standpoint, Pratt had noticed a void in WGOV's communications plan.

"The other thing is you ride all over the city and see these 'Vision 2005 in action' signs. It piques your interest as to what's going on with it, and sometimes you can read articles in the print media. But to have a visual prospective really enhances the project," Pratt said.

Because it is so encompassing, Herbert and Pratt acknowledge that Vision 2005 can be confusing to the average citizen.

"Coming Alive" will change that in a timely way.

"You know," Pratt reflected, "2005 isn't that far away. What's exciting is that by doing these shows now is that as projects are completed we can show the transformation through our footage. People will see the benefits."

Hotel's \$3 million renovation begins

The excitement is overwhelming with Holiday Inn-Olde Towne Portsmouth's \$3 million renovation.

All guest rooms and public areas will be completely refurbished.

The building's new exterior will reflect Olde Towne's historic seaport past.

New amenities include a 2,000-square-foot deck

overlooking the Elizabeth River.

Enjoy the Holiday Inn's new themed casual restaurant and bar or work out in the new fitness room.

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HATTONSVILLE IS SITE OF TWO NEW DEVELOPMENTS

A local developer, Jesse Swoope, recently acquired a one-half acre site in the 3100 Block of Airline Boulevard and is nearing completion of a new 2,300 square foot office/warehouse facility. When completed, this will be the new home of McRae Storage Buildings. Mr. John McRae, owner, has said that his business, which fabricates custom wooden storage sheds, currently employs three, and he expects to hire two additional staff within the next six months. It is anticipated that the construction will be completed by the end of February.

Additionally, on the corner of Laigh Road and Ballard Avenue, Mr. George Bowser has recently begun construction of a 2,200 square foot brick and vinyl office/warehouse. Mr. Bowser is being relocated by the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority through its redevelopment program. Danny E. Cruce, Executive Director of the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority, stated that "we are pleased that we are not only able to keep Mr. Bowser's business here in the City, but that he has expanded and upgraded his facility." Mr. Bowser is in the hauling and grading business. He currently employs three. The construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of March.

These two small developments represent an additional \$250,000 private sector investment on property that previously had generated minimal taxes to the City of Portsmouth.



McRae Storage Buildings



Bowser warehouse

ADMIRAL'S LANDING SALES EXCEEDING ALL EXPECTATIONS

Sales at the Admiral's Landing Condominium on Portsmouth's Elizabeth River waterfront have been so successful that only a few units remain. The Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority acquired the former Kings Crossing Condominium development from the Resolution Trust Corporation in late 1994. Construction on Kings Crossing had halted before any of the units were completed. The PRHA completed negotiations for the sale of Kings Crossing with First Equitable Realty out of Miami, Florida, in late 1995. Since that time, First Equitable has expended more than \$10 million and transformed the vacant and abandoned 8-story structure into one of the premier waterfront condominium complexes in the entire Hampton Roads area.

Admiral's Landing offers high-quality, upper scale condominium living along the historic Elizabeth River. Living at Admiral's Landing affords its residents the opportunity to view a constantly changing riverfront filled with tall ships, pleasure craft, and a variety of military and commercial shipping activity.

Admiral's Landing also offers an array of amenities ranging from covered parking, state-of-the-art 24-hour security system, front desk concierge service and elegantly appointed entryways, lobbies, and corridors by an award winning interior design firm. In addition, there is a health club facility on-site with a panoramic view of the Elizabeth River, a large heated pool and jacuzzi, and billiard room with card and game tables.

Admiral's Landing Condominiums are selling from \$119,000 to \$260,000. To date, 49 of the 61 units have sold, leaving only 12 units remaining to sell. The PRHA maintained ownership of 15,000 square feet of first-floor commercial/retail space, which is currently being marketed for upper scale retail/restaurant uses. This summer the High Street Landing will be completed immediately adjacent to Admiral's Landing. High Street Landing will serve as the docking facility for the Elizabeth River Ferry with service between Norfolk and Portsmouth's downtown waterfront.



Admiral's Landing Condominiums



Waterfront living unit

600 BLOCK HIGH STREET REVITALIZATION

Several new businesses have recently "discovered" the charm of Portsmouth's Old Towne shopping district. In the past year the 600 Block of High Street has witnessed a major resurgence of interest on the part of new businesses moving to Portsmouth. Anderson-Wright Rooms and Gardens, an antique's and furniture refinishing shop, opened at 622 High Street. The Ship's Store and the Ye Olde Antiques has opened at 624-628 High Street, Richard Atkinson, President of R. T. Atkinson Building Corporation and developer/owner of the properties at 624-628 High Street has also relocated his offices to the second floor of 624 High Street.

PRHA recently sold the property at 630 High Street to Largo Construction Company. Largo will renovate the building and relocate their new business, the Olde Towne Decorating Center, from its present location at 728-730 High Street, which they also recently purchased from PRHA and renovated. Renovations on 630 High Street have already begun. The PRHA is currently reviewing a number of proposals from private developers for the remaining properties it owns in the 600 Block. Also, the owners of the Drug Center Pharmacy at the corner of High and Washington Streets recently announced plans to expand their pharmacy and to undertake major exterior renovations to their property.

As is often the case with community development initiatives, PRHA facilitated the sale and rehabilitation of these properties by using a combination of redevelopment programs. The Authority purchased the building with Community Development Block Grant funds and, as an inducement to the developers, made commercial facade improvement loans utilizing money earned from the issuance of tax-exempt revenue bonds. Additionally, since the properties are located within the City of Portsmouth's Enterprise Zone, the businesses will qualify for many state and local tax incentives.



Ye Olde Antiques and The Ship's Store at 624-628 High Street

"HOME CARE PROGRAM": A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM

The City of Portsmouth and the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority are very pleased with the success of the Home Care Program. The Home Care Program provides grants of up to \$10,000 for home repairs to elderly homeowners who meet eligibility criteria. These repairs include such items as new heating and air conditioning systems, new roofing and replacement windows.

Additionally, this program has improved the quality of life for the program participants by reducing their utility bills and enhancing the overall appearance of their homes and their neighborhoods. The City of Portsmouth and the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority received national recognition from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as one of the nation's top seven performers of the HOME Program.

HOME is a federally funded program established to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing. A total of 222 grants were provided by the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority through the HOME Care Program using \$1.97 million of HOME funds.

COLUMBIA COMMONS SUBDIVISION

Through the efforts of the City of Portsmouth and the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority, a section of substandard, dilapidated housing in Downtown Portsmouth has been cleared and prepared for new construction. The site is located off South Street between Washington and Effingham Streets in Downtown Portsmouth.

Originally the area now known as Columbia Commons contributed an insignificant amount of taxes to the City's rolls. The new development provides home ownership opportunities in the Downtown area, adding to the tax rolls and supporting merchants in the locality. Upon completion, 19 lots will have been developed as single-family detached homes with prices ranging from \$89,000 to \$150,000. To date, 11 homes have been constructed and sold, leaving only 8 lots remaining to sell.

The spacious, two-level brick homes contain a minimum of 2,000 square feet of living space and each has an attached garage. Each home also includes a fireplace and patio overlooking a private back yard.

The City has provided attractive fencing around the community while maintaining neighborhood views and continuity. The City has also provided landscaping along the perimeter of the wall and a central community island.

If you wish to obtain additional information, contact the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority at 399-5261, ext. 266.



Columbia Commons subdivision



Spacious, two-level brick homes

HOLIDAY INN BEGINS RENOVATIONS

The Holiday Inn-Portsmouth Waterfront, the City of Portsmouth, and the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority have been working together to renovate the Holiday Inn Hotel located at 8 Crawford Parkway. Holiday Inns Worldwide has embarked on a campaign of modernization throughout its system to increase its standards of physical product and service levels. This effort to re-establish the Holiday Inn brand as the country's hotel leader is welcomed by the owners of the Portsmouth property as well as the City of Portsmouth.

The \$2.4 million renovation will enhance the hotel's appearance and expand its facilities and services, thus drawing in more business. New business activity will bring \$267,000 annually in additional tax revenue to the City and promote the creation of 39 new jobs, as well as the retention of 28 existing jobs, which would have been lost had the renovation not been carried forward.

The funding for the project is through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program. Bonds are sold in the private market and guaranteed by the federal government at no cost to local citizens. The extensive work plan includes complete redesign of the exterior facades and construction of a waterfront deck to match the architectural integrity of Old Towne Portsmouth, the complete interior renovation of all lobby, administrative, food and beverage outlets and other public areas, and the complete interior renovation of guest rooms, guest room baths, and guest room corridors, as well as the installation of new electronic locks.



Hotel modernization in progress



Holiday Inn-Portsmouth Waterfront

THUMPER'S OPENS IN THE PYTHIAN CASTLE

Thumper's Bar and Grill has opened in the former Pythian Castle located at the corner of Court and County Streets in Portsmouth's Old Towne shopping district. Thumper's owner, Robert Conery, has replicated his highly successful Elizabeth City restaurant in Downtown Portsmouth.

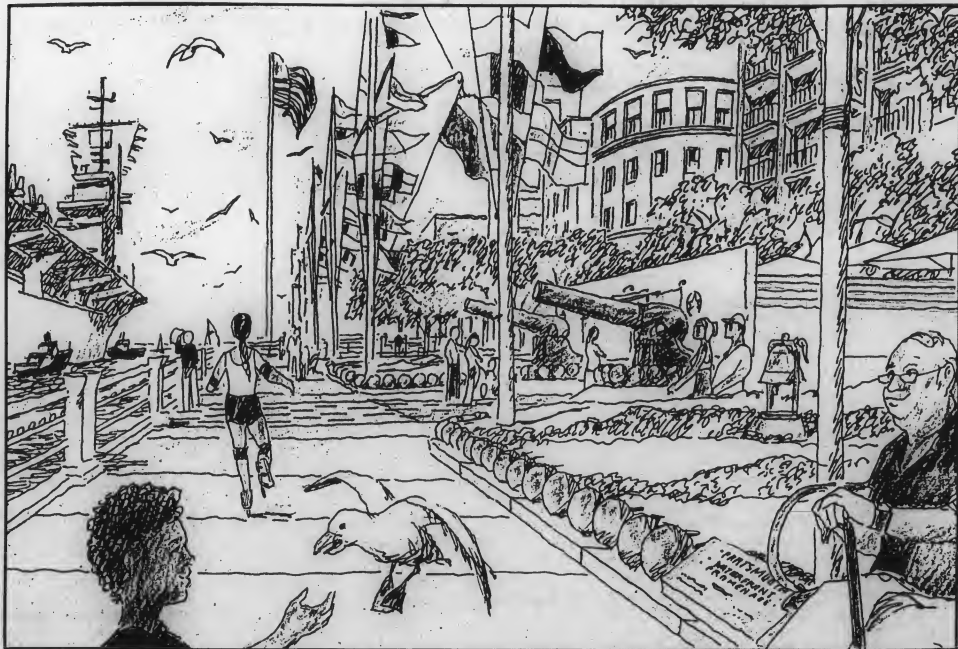
Thumper's has a diverse menu with daily specials and numerous Cajun flavored entrees. Conery leased the first floor of the 1880 building from the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority and immediately transformed the building into a first class restaurant and night spot catering to families and professionals throughout Hampton Roads. Conery expended more than \$100,000 restoring the Pythian Castle.

Thumper's opened in September 1996 and has been so successful that Conery is already making plans to expand to the second floor. This expansion will afford him the opportunity to cater parties, receptions, and other special events at Thumper's.

The Authority also leased the third floor of the Pythian Castle to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, an agency which fosters historic preservation and serves the entire Hampton Roads community and the Eastern Shore of Virginia.



Thumper's Bar and Grill



Weaving the historic trail of two cities: bring Portsmouth and Norfolk together

By VICTORIA HECHT

Charles Dickens invites the reader into his classic novel of France's tumultuous revolution, "A Tale of Two Cities," with the oft-remembered line, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

The cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth are planning their own "revolution" of sorts in a joint history tour appropriately entitled "A Trail of Two Cities."

Organizers from both sides of the Elizabeth River, representing the Portsmouth Partnership and Great Norfolk Corporation, met recently to discuss plans for the project.

Still in the very formative stage, supporters are moving forward with plans for a joint tour that would offer visitors a single ticket to the cities' downtown area museums and other historic draws. Transportation, by land and water, would be included in the

ticket price.

Planner Ray Gindroz, most notably known in Portsmouth for his Vision 2005 strategic efforts, is spearheading the cooperative project. He called the recent gathering of about two dozen officials "a historic meeting" between the two cities.

With artist's renderings of each cities' proposed trails lining the walls, he said A Trail of Two Cities will give tourists a totally different experience of each side of the water.

"The differences between the two cities in physical form resulted in a different approach to how (we) structure the visitation experience and the 'museumizing' of the city," he said.

Citing examples, Gindroz said that Portsmouth is a "grid city," but Norfolk has several grids that "collide and intersect in an ever-complex and

fascinating way."

Downtown Portsmouth, is also appears, has been developed on higher land, whereas Norfolk was build on lower idewater ground.

"The result is that the basic grid and street town of Olde Towne and downtown Portsmouth is very clear," he explained. "Just that framework becomes the way you find your way around."

In Norfolk, Gindroz and his group of planners have elected not to build on the grid, rather opting for an experience based on an actual footpath trail.

"Two very different places," he continued. "We think this is terrific. To have two very different experiences tied together is a great experience."

Although arrangements have yet to be made for financing the project, eight separate themed trails, called "Cannonball Trails," have been suggested.


They include:

- Water/Land Connection — (Norfolk) water's edge including Town Point Park, Nauticus, City Hall Avenue; (Portsmouth) Riverwall and High Street Landing
- Port City/Naval City — (Norfolk) Naval Museum, Town Point Park, Armed Forces Memorial, Waterside; (Portsmouth) Naval Shipyard Museum, Riverwall (seawall).
- Maritime Commerce —

(Norfolk) Custom House, Business District, Freemason Street; (Portsmouth) Naval Shipyard Museum, Riverwall (seawall).


■ The City at War (On Fire, Under Fire) — (Norfolk) Naval Museum, MacArthur Memorial, St. Paul's Church, Town Point Park, Fort Norfolk, esplanade at foot of St. Paul's Boulevard; (Portsmouth) Naval

□ See A, Page 9



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A historic trail of two cities

Continued From Page 8

Shipyard Museum, Naval Hospital, Craney Island, Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

■ **Community and Prosperity** — (Norfolk) Freemason Street, Moses Myers House, Adam Thoroughgood House, Willoughby Baylor House, St. Paul's Church; (Portsmouth) Olde Towne.

■ **Children's Lives** — (Norfolk) Freemason Street, Moses Myers House, Nauticus; (Portsmouth) Children's Museum.

■ **The Arts** — (Norfolk) Chrysler Museum, Freemason Street, Chrysler Hall, opera; (Portsmouth) Portsmouth art galleries, dinner theater.

■ **African-American Heritage** — (Norfolk) Attucks Theater, Queen Street Baptist Church, St. John's AME; (Portsmouth) Effingham commercial corridor, Ebenezer Baptist Church.

Visitors would get around by three means: foot, trolley and boat, both the Elizabeth River Ferry operated by TRT and a private tour boat.

Gindroz told the gathering that, in essence, the structure of the city "becomes the structure of the experience."

Visitors would get around by

three means: foot, trolley and boat, both the Elizabeth River Ferry operated by TRT and a private tour boat.

The most urgent steps now, Gindroz suggested, are identifying immediate initiatives and goals. Namely, committees must be formed for each aspect of the project.

"What we need to talk about now is what can be done immediately, and what kind of organizational things need to be set in place, to get A Trail of Two cities actually working," he said, noting the tour should be a "user-friendly experience."

Norfolk businessman Charles N. Cooper, chairman of the steering committee, wondered if there is enough in Norfolk and Portsmouth to attract visitors for an extended period.

Chip Jeffries, also a planner, noted that A Trail of Two Cities, "is an experience that you can't get in Boston" or other places, while Gindroz said Portsmouth/Norfolk has the allure of both land and water.

Keith Toler, representing Portsmouth's Convention and Visitors Bureau, cautioned against forcing "the visitor in for more than they want to see" and the importance of making the tour "easy" on the tourist.

Gindroz identified first steps the cities must take in presenting the project to the public.

They include information kiosks on each side of the water informing visitors about the neighboring city. A video was also suggested for ferry rides. Norfolk and Portsmouth must also choose "symbolic" elements of their cities to tie the project together.



Photo by M.J. Knoblock

PARK IT HERE. Thirty parking spaces will be removed from this lot adjacent to City Hall, above, to make room for a small park. Leftover soil from the High Street Landing project, below, was used to fill in the segment before it is covered with sod.

Vision moving forward

Continued From Page 4

discussed and a real sense of movement is now being felt by both the city and the Mid City business owners.

■ **Scotts Creek Neighborhood** — Funding was approved to acquire property and build a new Harold Street connecting Elm Avenue to Naval Hospital.

■ **I.C. Norcom** — The new I.C. Norcom is scheduled for opening fall 1997. Plans are being considered to expand the seating of the stadium from 5,000 seats to 10,000 seats.

■ **Beyond 2005** — The Office of Plans and Policy was formed in May of 1996 with Steve Herbert as the chief plans and policy officer. This office provides staff support for the City Manager's Office concerning development policy for the city. It is also



responsible for coordinating Vision 2005, the city's strategic plan for economic and community development. Plans and policy has provided staff support for the five standing committees of Vision 2005, coordinated the activities of nearly 200 volunteers who work on the committees and organized, as well as staffed, more than 30 Vision 2005

committee meetings. Herbert has presented more than 40 formal Vision 2005 briefings to civic leaders and public officials.

In the late summer and fall of 1996, two new Vision 2005 committees were established to support citizen initiatives in the Craddock and Ida Barbour sections of the city.

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Courtesy Photo

A NEW PLACE TO CALL HOME. B & B Manufacturing, which makes party tents and wholesales cemetery products and supplies, will hold its grand opening next month at its new location in PortCentre Commerce Park.

Local business stays close to home: relocating to PortCentre Commerce Park

B & B Manufacturing Inc. is relocating to two acres in PortCentre Commerce Park and is currently located on Laigh Road in Portsmouth.

The company was founded by Judy P. and Robert B. Doleman and is currently located on Laigh Road in Portsmouth.

They anticipate a grand opening ceremony next month, upon completion of the new location.

B & B Manufacturing makes

tents and related products for funeral service companies. Additionally, it manufactures party tents and wholesales cemetery products and supplies.

The expansion will enable the company to increase productivity and provide additional products.

B & B currently employs 26 people and anticipates creating another 10 jobs within the next two years.

"This project is a good example of our economic

development system at work: growing local business acquiring a site in a municipally owned commerce park and obtaining financing from a city sponsored loan program," said Matthew James, director of Economic Development.

"We chose the PortCentre site because of its central location, Enterprise Zone benefits, overall value and the assistance from city officials," stated B & B Manufacturing's Robert B. Doleman.

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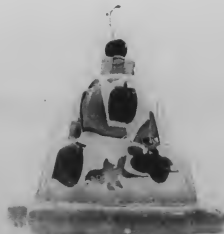
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397-7606

City's tourism numbers looking up

While the Portsmouth Convention and Visitors Bureau is still processing

data for hotel occupancy, lodging taxes and meals taxes collected, visitation to

attractions and response to advertising, in addition to creating a summary of

meetings and conventions, it is safe to say that Portsmouth appears to have had a very strong tourist season in 1996.

Like most locations within the region, there was a significant decrease in visitation during the month of June. This decrease can be attributed to the harsh winter of 1996 and the extended school year which resulted.

However, July and August saw a modest rebound in visitor traffic. People came to Portsmouth's museums, toured the harbor aboard the Carrie B and rode through Olde Towne on trolleys, horses and buses.

Specifically, some of the bureau's successes include:

■ Increased visitation to the Olde Towne RV Park during the Seawall Festival.

■ A tour company from Maryland brought almost 3,000 visitors to Portsmouth.

■ A tour company out of Richmond brought one motorcoach per week for most of the summer so that visitors could explore the contributions of African-Americans to the development of the city and the nation.

■ The average crowd size at Portside on Thursday evenings exceeded 1,500 per night, with several nights more than 3,000.

■ More tourism-related businesses opened along High Street, including Anderson-Wright, the Ships Store, West Treasures, Art Atrium II and Thumpers Restaurant.

■ The Norfolk Naval Shipyard once again opened Trophy Park to visitors.



Courtesy Photo

GRAND OPENING. The Art Atrium II is one of the tourism-related businesses that recently opened along High Street.

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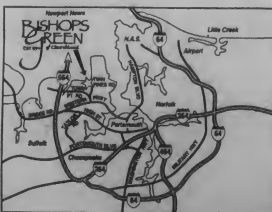
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News in Brief

Youth program draws attention to AIDS crisis

The American Red Cross Tidewater Chapter and the Southside Boys and Girls Club will present "The Diversity of AIDS," a dramatic presentation using dance and narrative to educate youth and their families on HIV/AIDS issues Saturday at the Central Library auditorium. This presentation is part of the African-American History Month Series, "A Community Celebrates Roots of Diversity" sponsored by the Virginia Beach Public Library.

The American Red Cross educates youth on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention at local schools, youth centers and clubs.

This program highlights how entertainment can be used medium to educate youth on this critically important disease. The program will take place from 3 - 5 p.m., and a dessert reception will follow the performance. The Virginia Beach Central Library is located at 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd. This project is supported by a grant from the Tidewater Children's Foundation.

For additional information, call Kirsten Bradley at 446-7778. To reserve a seat for the performance, call the Central Library at 431-3071. The performance is free-of-charge.

Increased bus service proposed for city, base

Transportation planners for Naval Base Norfolk and TRAFFIX, a regional resource for commuter information and services, are considering adding a new bus service from Virginia Beach.

The new route would originate at the Park and Ride lot on Virginia Beach Boulevard between First Colonial and Great Neck roads, and provide direct service using the HOV lanes to Naval Base Norfolk and CINCLANT.

Anyone interested in this proposed service is requested to call TRAFFIX at 1-800-700-RIDE. For service and schedule planning, name, phone number, building number and work hours are needed.

Call TRAFFIX at 1-800-700-RIDE for information on commuting alternatives including carpooling, vanpooling and van leasing, rideshare matching, HOV Express bus and other bus service.

Job fair offered for local disabled veterans

Detailed explanations of the full range of benefits available to disabled veterans and their families will be presented at an upcoming Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Veterans Job Fair and Service Day.

Like all services provided by the non-profit DAV, there will be no charge for these services, which will be hosted by the DAV Department of Virginia. It will begin at 10 a.m. on March

6 at the Virginia Beach Resort and Conference Center, 2800 Shore Dr.

Veterans and members of their families need not be DAV or DAV Auxiliary members to take advantage of this free DAV service. They should bring their Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) claim number and Social Security number to the DAV Job Fair and Service Day.

STOP recruiting for children's enrollment

The STOP Organization's Head Start Program is now proving evening recruitment dates for parents who are unable to enroll their children during normal business hours. STOP's Head Start program is federally funded and serves low-income families with children ages 3 and 4 years old.

Head Start sponsors a child care food program and does not discriminate because of race, sex or national origin.

For further information on the February and March evening recruitment schedule, call 858-1383, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Hampton Roads ready to honor top 'Addys'

The Hampton Roads 1997 American Advertising Awards banquet will be held Feb. 22 at the Cavalier Beach Club in Virginia Beach. The "Addy" Awards are designed to recognize and showcase Hampton Roads' best advertising creative talent. It is the first tier in the national competition conducted annually to reward creative excellence in the art of advertising.

Three-hundred-and-sixty-two broadcast and print entries were received from local agencies, businesses and individuals. A three-member judging panel has selected those which will be honored at the awards banquet.

The event begins at 5 p.m. with a display of the entries. Dinner begins at 7 p.m., followed by the awards show. Tickets for the gala event cost \$40 and can be purchased by calling 456-1541.

Planning session slated for recreation facilities

There will be a public information workshop 4 - 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27 in Room 4 of the Princess Anne Recreation Center.

This meeting will provide planning information for West Neck Creek District Park, which will be located on North Landing Road next to the

Municipal Center. Plans for West Neck Creek District Park include a nature/interpretive center; hiking, biking and equestrian trails; access to West Neck Creek for non-motorized water craft; and, parking, picnic and restroom facilities. Park plans and information will be available.

Council defers revenue-sharing decision with schools until Tues.

By LEE CAHILL
City Council Reporter

City council has deferred a decision on its city/schools revenue sharing policy until Feb. 25 at the request of the school board, but adopted a resolution telling the school board how much it would receive in city funds to prepare its 1997-98 budget.

The amounts stated in the resolution adopted last week are based on the key principles of the revenue sharing policy and provide an estimated \$182,719,693 for public school operations, \$1 million for pay-as-you-go capital improvements and \$31,198,052 for school-related debt service. These are estimates subject to final adjustments by the city manager prior to formal approval of the 1997-98 budget by city council.

Action on the policy was also deferred on Jan. 7 and Feb. 4 at the request of the school board. The resolution adopted last week

But adopted interim resolution regarding 1997-98 budget

is an interim action that will allow the school administration to prepare its budget, which is prepared about a month prior to the city budget preparation, while city and school officials continue discussions in an effort to reach some consensus on a policy. Management and Budget Director Dean Block said that regardless of what policy is adopted, the figures will not change. He said that if the revenue base on which the school appropriation is made is changed to include more sources of revenue, the school board percentage will be reduced accordingly.

Although Mayor Meyera Oberdorf and City Manager James K. Spore reported that some progress was being made in bringing the two bodies together,

some council members indicated that there were some positions in the proposed policy that they don't want to change.

The disagreement and some confusion over the two resolutions resulted in a 7-4 vote in favor with councilmen John A. Baum, and Louis R. Jones, and councilwomen Reba McClanan and Louisa Strayhorn dissenting. Vice Mayor William D. Sessions Jr., who is working with Oberdorf and Spore with school officials on the policy, said the resolution is merely to give guidance to the school board.

Councilman W. W. Harrison Jr. said that he feared that by voting for the interim resolution he would be saying that he would not support the revenue sharing plan when his position hasn't changed on some details of the

policy that were not evident in the interim resolution.

Included in the resolution is the intent of council to provide 53.13 percent of the estimated 1997-98 general fund real estate tax, personal property tax, general sales tax, utility tax, cellular phone tax, business license tax and the Cox Cable franchise fee revenues to the schools. The allocation meets a requirement of the proposed policy.

However other elements of the policy are not included in the interim resolution.

Councilman Linwood Branch said that it "sounds like we're voting for some elements of (the policy)."

At the earlier informal session of council, Spore said that one of the requests of the school board is that the city would allocate to the school board a share in any surplus after the books are closed for the year.

□See COUNCIL, Page 12

Students 'dig in' to building challenge

By M.J. KNOBLOCK
Sun Correspondent

Getting out of school to play in the mud?

Well, not exactly. The group of students that gathered at 205 N. Thalia Rd. last week, joined by several teachers and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Timothy Jenney, attended a ground breaking ceremony for a house they are building from scratch.

The Career Development Center (CDC) is pulling students from several trades to complete the second building project since the program began four years ago.

"One thing that's great about this project is it's business incorporated with the school system," explained Anthony Pawlowski, CDC carpentry instructor and site manager for the project.

Funding for the house is pulled from a no-interest loan from a local bank, BB&T, as well as some leftover profits from the last house students built. Located on Newtown Road, it sold for \$80,000.

The project is a joint effort between the Virginia Beach City Public Schools Education Foundation in cooperation with the CDC and Technical and Career Education Center, as well as many local businesses.

Although Pawlowski is referred to as the general contractor, he



DIG IN! Students, teachers, city officials and local businesses participated in a ground-breaking ceremony last week on Thalia road. Students from the Career Development Center will build a house from the ground up using hands-on learning.

makes it very clear that he is not doing the work.

"This is strictly students. The professionals you have working on this are the instructors," he said.

"I'm not building this house. I'm giving the students the information they need. They're building the house. This is one of the few projects in the state where the students do 98 percent of the work."

From the initial lawn mowing before the digging began, to applying for permits and preparing for plumbing, to erecting the structure and installing the necessities of roofing and windows, the house will be a learning experience.

Students from carpentry, masonry, heating and air conditioning and plumbing take class time to work on the site,

which after a recent rain resembled a small field of mud with trenches running through it.

"Right now, you see a muddy hole in the ground," Pawlowski smiled. "But it was dug by hand. They used tape measures to make sure it's correct."

About 75 students participate in the project. The house should be

□See STUDENTS, Page 12

Schools, police team up to fight crime

New pilot program debuts in limited Beach classrooms

By MARGARET WINDLEY
Sun Correspondent

The statistics are worse than sobering.

Every day in America 15 children and teens are killed by guns. Between 1988 and 1991 more Americans were murdered in this country than were killed in battle during the eight years of the Vietnam War. Four out of every five who are shot are maimed or permanently disabled. The fifth dies.

The message should be clear — guns are the enemy — particularly in the hands of children and teenagers. Random childhood fights have changed from an annoying facet of youthful existence to life-threatening nightmare. Murder and suicide rates are growing at an alarming pace.

In a luncheon hosted at the Founders Inn last week, the police department in cooperation with the city, the school system, private business and Virginia Beach General Hospital kicked



Police Chief Charles Wall

classrooms.

"It teaches children we have options," said Sgt. Sam Lewis. "These are some of the consequences good or bad."

He added that on the first day the classes will be looking at slides of gunshot wounds under the guidance of a health professional.

"There's one where they are operating on a young man who's been shot in the stomach," he said. "It shows where he's had to have his intestines cut open. Realistic entrance and exit wounds will be shown."

Explaining that too many youngsters have watched the unrealistic violence on television and in the movies, Lewis said they do not have a realistic conception of the aftermath of violence.

"It does not just sting and go away," he said.

The second session will be taught by an attorney to explain the gun laws and the third will be a summarization by a police officer for a test that will give educational credits for the students within the Social Studies curriculum. A police officer will be present each day to facilitate the overall presentation.

Although there has been a reduction in serious crime in the area, Police Chief Charles R. Wall explained that violent juvenile crime has increased over the last four or five years. Experts are predicting an additional rise in juvenile violence by 2005 or 2007.

"We do not accept any thought or notion that violent crime must increase and that we cannot do anything about it," he said. The program is an attempt to make use of the window of opportunity offered now by use of an anti-violence campaign.

"We are using this opportunity to minimize violence in the city," he said.

To put a handle on the need for the program, Lt. J.A. Cervera, Keep the Peace coordinator, told about special seating arrangements at the luncheon — an accommodation for a number of American young people whose lives would be snuffed out by gun violence every day.

"A table was set aside for the 15 kids who are not going to have lunch," he said. "In two weeks this room will be filled with no one."

Commentary

THE HEALING WALL

A time to mend

Violence tore Jacqueline McDonald's son from her arms too early, then another son two years later.

When will it end?

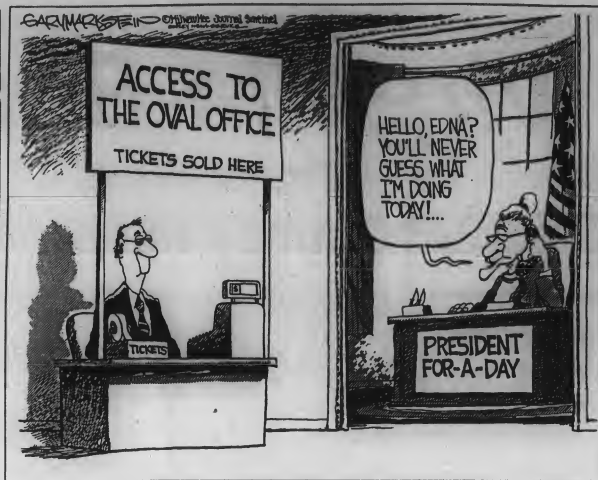
That question was on the minds of about 100 people who gathered at Rosewood Memorial Park on Sunday for the unveiling of a monument dedicated to Hampton Roads' young people who lose their lives to violence — some to the streets, some to domestic abuse. But all too young.

Through a project sponsored by Mothers Against Crime, the memorial took shape. The wall and its perpetual care were donated by Rosewood and Kellam Funeral Home. The memorial itself will help keep alive memories of the youngest victims of violence.

The wall also serves as a reminder that we cannot shut out reality, that death is occurring even to the innocent. The death of a child is perhaps the most cutting pain, bringing with it lifelong suffering.

Hopefully, The Healing Wall will live up its name. Many parents and loved ones have not had the chance for that closure, to say "goodbye." Now they will. As Rosewood family service counselor Denis Toler explained, "Nobody ever plans for the death of a child."

As the healing begins, a bigger problem must be addressed: stop the violence. It must begin somewhere. It must begin now. — V.E.H.



Letters to the editor

\$19 million can buy a lot of image

Editor:
The majority of Virginia Beach's fiscally-conscious citizens are well aware that a "deal" originally orchestrated between the Hampton Roads Partnership and Charlotte Hornets Owner George Shinn calls for Virginia Beach to contribute \$627,600 annually for 30 years to assist in funding a facility in Norfolk to be called the Hampton Roads Arena.

This 20,000-seat structure would have Shinn's proposed National Hockey League team, the Rhinos, as its anchor tenant, and the sports magnate would pay only \$1 million yearly for rental.

As originally presented by Shinn and the Partnership, the arena deal drew fire all across the region; 15 localities would be asked to help pay off a portion (\$69,000,000) of the new arena's shopping \$143,000,000 price tag. To "educate" local councils (who'll make the ultimate pro or con decisions), the Sports Council of Hampton Roads has taken over the job of promoting the arena.

This different cadre of "shakers and movers" feel they have valid arguments for the arena's existence, but careful study reveals most, if not all, of their contentions to be vacuous, merely smoke and mirrors.

The arena won't be Shinn's, it's said, but an edifice all 1.6 million citizens in eastern Virginia can claim and be proud of. But, if truth be known, the arena must be built if Shinn is to expand his empire and get an NHL franchise — it is needed as a catalyst for his personal success.

In a day and age where belt-tightening is in order, Tidewater simply can ill afford this new complex. And, to be sure, situated in downtown Norfolk, the new arena, regardless of name, would primarily be a Norfolk asset.

Perhaps the most ludicrous leverage used to sway Tidewater's diverse communities to join together for the arena is the belief that it will enhance regional camaraderie.

No one can argue against certain forms of cooperation, but the ultimate benefits (improved image, we're told) are definitely as speculative as the Rhinos' future success heretofore. Hampton Roads is not an unknown quantity!

Her is where America got its start. Here is the home to the world's largest Naval base. Here is the world's natural harbor and greatest shipyard. And, it's true some NHL owners were unaware of our existence, then it only goes to show that it takes limited prowess to accrue wealth and power.

Virginia Beach could probably buy a dozen full-page ads yearly in the Sunday *New York Times* to attract potential industrial investment for less than the amount it's being asked to fork over to the arena cause. And \$627,600 could easily fund promotional kits and quality videos to be sent world-wide to sing the city's praises to investors.

As for the nearly \$19 million being asked for the long run from the Beach, it simply seems like far too much for too little. If someone doesn't know where eastern Virginia is, perhaps they need a crash course in history and geography.

To quote a Peninsula legislator, "If George Shinn wants to bring a team here, let him do it with his own dime...not ours!" Ditto.

Ron Bell
Former Chairman
Newport News
Historical Commission

Decorate Virginia with trees, not billboards

Editor:
Virginia's natural beauty has been a chief drawing card for tourists over the years and will hopefully continue to be so. The trees, flowers and shrubs of our native environment have enhanced this state as a primary attraction for both tourists and residents. I am shocked that our General Assembly has chosen to ignore what has been put in place over these many years and moved toward the passage of legislation which will allow the Virginia Department of Transportation to cut trees so that we may enjoy the "beauty of billboards."

I have followed, over the past several years, the shenanigans that have occurred nationally with the billboard legislation as a result of the extensive lobbying efforts in Washington by the Outdoor Advertising Industry. I have always been proud that our Virginia legislature has risen above this level of action. Therefore, I was quite surprised when I saw a

bill come from nowhere with all the signatures on it belonging to many House and Senate members whose names I recognized.

I am quite sure with the momentum that this bill appears to have, when it reaches the governor's office he will sign this legislation immediately and we, in the state, will be stuck with being put in the same category as many other states which have been lobbied into destruction of the natural beauty and environment which this state has. I would hope that the citizens of the commonwealth would rise to the occasion and demand that their legislators not only defeat these bills; but in the event they are passed, insist that governor veto this legislation.

Reba S. McClanahan
Past President
Virginia Urban
Forest Council

Just don't call a girl 'a frump'

Fashions come and fashions go, but one thing sometimes stays the same — hair.

If you want some examples of folks stuck in a perpetual funk, just look at the characters in one of my favorite comic strips. Blondie may be a thoroughly modern gal now, what with the catering business she started with her next-door neighbor.

But the hair? Strictly "1950ish." Although men's styles don't change that drastically, it's safe to say Dagwood and his eternal cowl could use a makeover too. Hey, it worked last year for the mothers in "Family Circus" and "For Better or Worse," so how about the old sand-wich-eating Dagwood?

But these are cartoon characters. What about true life? I won't offer names, but I have several friends whose mothers haven't changed their coifs since we were youngsters. Mrs.

XXX still looks like she walked out of a '70s television show (shades of "The Brady Bunch"), while Mrs. YYY dates her hair to the '50s when she was a bobbysoxer.

I hope I never get that way, but I was on the road. Sure, I've had haircuts and new styles over the years since high school, but never did I stray far from my familiar stick straight, one-length look with bangs.

Then I went to visit my husband three weekends ago while he was on a Florida business trip. Maybe it was all the tanned beach bunnies that inspired his boldness, but I'll never forget the three words that came from his mouth as he walked me through the airport terminal to my departing flight — "You've gotten frumpy."

Complete devastation. There are few things a husband can say that will invoke such feelings. Frumpy? Me? I've always prided myself on looking smart, staying attuned to fashion (the regular shopping spree is testament to that) and, by any means, not looking frumpy.

Those three little words hurt. I looked down at the jeans, sweatshirt and clogs I was wearing (comfy clothes for the plane flight) and wondered aloud.

"I have been wearing a lot of pants lately. And these clogs, too. Is that frumpy?" I asked.

"Well," Evan said, "you just don't

seem to care about yourself as much anymore."

On the flight home I pondered that. I also pondered my hair. That week I went on a shopping spree for some new clothes, a few days later it was a new haircut.

It was a soggy Saturday when I pulled into the parking lot of a hair salon near my home. The sky was pouring, so by the time I entered the warm salon I looked like a sopping rat.

"Can I help you?" the receptionist offered.

I looked around. Must've been a slow day because there was only one stylist and she was coiffing an older woman's hair.

"I need a new look, something totally different," I blurted out. "Can I see some haircut books?"

She eagerly piled several volumes into my hands. I poured over the pages, book after book, until settling on a sassy Oriental bob with thick bangs. The hair came to a sharp angle high on the cheekbones.

"That's what I want!" I smiled, pointing triumphantly at the picture. "OK, that's what you'll get," the receptionist said, getting up from her post and seating me in a styling chair.

The cutting began. As long strands of hair began falling to the floor, I panicked. So I closed my eyes and frumpy? I asked.

See FRUMPY, Page 3

Rhino's charge would hurt more than help area

I had planned this week to use my column to write about Newt Gingrich's new love affair with Jesse Jackson and Bob Dole's remarks

about Bill Clinton on the "Today Show" when he said, "I respect him as a person (and) as a president."

That medal Slick Willie gave Dole brought him over quick, didn't it?

But now to the main subject for this week, The Rhinos. It is

quite obvious that the *Virginian-Pilot*, the mouthpiece for Norfolk and Rhinos owner George Shinn, are now putting on the full court press with their unsigned editorials and front page interviews with Shinn. It is interesting that the editorials and interviews seem to be telling the surrounding cities what is best for them, never mentioning the disasters in Norfolk like Nauticus and the MacArthur Center which aren't doing so well. They also fail to talk about Norfolk's high tax rate, which is the highest in Hampton Roads.

It is also quite obvious that Mr. Shinn and his followers are getting a little testy if I am reading the 75-minute interview with the *VIP* correctly. Mr. Shinn was quoted in that interview as saying, "These people had better get real and join this thing so that everyone loves each other and get rid of the bitterness and petty jealousy." My, my.

Since Norfolk will be the big winner in Mr. Shinn's great adventure and since Portsmouth has capitulated, he must be talking about Chesapeake and Virginia Beach. The remarks made by Mr. Shinn tell me that he needs a lesson from Dale Carnegie's book on "How to Win Friends and Influence People."

The letters to the editor and the street talk tell me that if a real survey was taken, there would be few who supported building an arena in Norfolk. Virginia Beach Mayor Meyera Oberndorf and some members of her council should be commended for the caution that has been displayed by that city on the Rhinos issue.

Chesapeake Mayor Bill Ward and his council have also displayed sensible judgement in not jumping on the band wagon. Vice Mayor John Butt and Secretary Joe W. Newman are on the record opposing any deal that would levy a fee on Chesapeake citizens. The last I heard, the formula for each city would be \$1.50 per resident.

With Chesapeake facing a \$19 million shortfall and a possibility that schools might get all of the money that they have requested, it would seem to me to be political suicide to support an arena in Norfolk for whatever reason. When the Hampton Roads Regional Arena task force comes to Chesapeake, perhaps they can help find the money to make up the \$19 million shortfall. Hampton Roads doesn't need an arena in Norfolk. They need schools.

Welcome to the real world.

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Off The Cuff.

By Victoria Hecht, editor

But the hair? Strictly "1950ish." Although men's styles don't change that drastically, it's safe to say Dagwood and his eternal cowl could use a makeover too. Hey, it worked last year for the mothers in "Family Circus" and "For Better or Worse," so how about the old sand-wich-eating Dagwood?

But these are cartoon characters. What about true life? I won't offer names, but I have several friends whose mothers haven't changed their coifs since we were youngsters. Mrs.

Law library answers residents' legal questions

The questions most asked of the Wahab Public Law Library staff are "Can anyone use the law library?" and "Is the library open to the public?"



The Mayor's Report

Mayor Meyer Oberndorf

The answer to both is a resounding yes!

Wahab Public Law Library is part of the Virginia Beach Public Library system and is located in the Judicial Center in Court Support Building 10B. Resources in this library are available

preparing their own legal documents and a collection of handbooks on a variety of topics specific to Virginia. These popular books provide information about family law, landlord/tenant issues, estates and forms for various legal sections. The collection also includes city and federal codes, case reporters, law journals, digests and case finders. The library owns a number of titles written for the non-attorney on such subjects as adoption law, bankruptcy, copyright, estate planning, employment and labor law issues.

There are a variety of brochures available giving information about the Virginia court system, how to represent yourself in court, obtaining a copyright, consumer issues, how to research specific topics and the location of resources in the library.

The computers and resources in the legal research computer room are available for all customers to use. Resources include CD-ROM products that allow searching of Virginia and Federal laws and cases by key word or term and for citation to articles in law reviews and other legal publications. Word processing software is available to customers.

A small print fee is charged to make copies. The staff will research on Westlaw, an online legal research service, with the customer present and for a fee.

An average of 75 to 80 people walk through the library doors each day. Attorneys, court reporters, judges, paralegal students, graduate students, high school and college students and people from the general populace all use the resources available at the law library.

Copies of the Code of Virginia and the Code of City of Virginia Beach are located in all of the libraries in the Virginia Beach Public Library system. Central Library has a small collection of legal materials to provide information to people who need evening and weekend access.

Groups visit the law library by special arrangement for orientations and tours. Earlier this fall several classes of fourth graders and their teachers from Old Donation Center for the Gifted and Talented toured the facility. They learned the difference between city, state and federal codes and that the library staff is there to help them find the information they need. Area vocational schools request tours for their classes of legal research and writing students.

Tidewater Community College instructors and students use the law library several times a week as their classroom giving them immediate access to many of the materials they need to work on their assignments. The staff has, on request, designed specialized tours for the police department, Circuit Court and public defender staffs, court reporters, and other library staff members. The law library provides many valuable resources and services to anyone in need of legal information. And yes, it is free and open to the public.

Jill Burr, Virginia Beach law librarian, contributed to this column.

Up close and personal

Susan Wagner: Tail-wagging talk

By VICTORIA HECHT
Sun Editor

Susan Wagner knows the joy that a pet can bring to a family. But she also knows heartbreak when an animal whose adoption was based on an ill decision is brought to the Virginia Beach SPCA.

With a little information, however, that can be prevented.

That's where Wagner comes in.

As education director for the shelter, outreach to the community is imperative to controlling the pet population, preventing animal abuse and finding good homes for God's creatures. She also underscores the link between domestic and animal abuse and oversees the SPCA's pet therapy program. Wagner also stresses the importance of rabies prevention and proper animal care.

Many humane educators like Wagner are former teachers. But she entered the field in an entirely different way.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a bachelor's degree in journalism, Wagner was working community relations at Virginia Beach General Hospital when she learned of the SPCA position. That was 1979.

Wagner knew little about the field then, but had a healthy love for animals. Since then it has been a learning experience — for her and the people she helps.

She tailors presentations for different age groups. Youngsters in particular are enthusiastic learners.

"With the little bitty ones, what we do is say, 'This is a toy animal and this is a real one. With a real one, you don't squeeze it or drop it!'" she laughed. "You go from there."

Using puppets and a flannel story board, Wagner's presentations boil down to one thing: animals need from their owners — love.

Rabies education is a prime topic for students in second grade and up. Wagner also stresses that the SPCA, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, is an animal welfare organization, not animal rights.

A main thrust of her presentations is controlling the pet population through spaying and neutering — that having a litter of puppies or kittens at home isn't always in the pet's interest.

"If first and second graders are excited that their dog or cat just had a big litter, we mention that maybe it's not the best thing in the world. There are two ways to look at things."

Sometimes it seems like an uphill battle, but Wagner said the SPCA is making headway, particularly with dogs. Cats are another matter.

"A lot of people still think of cats as a throw-away animal. They're like, 'What do you mean, get a license and shots for a cat?'" she lamented. "We really don't adopt out cats to people who admit they plan to let it spend a lot of time outdoors — to let the cat roam. It's against the law in Virginia Beach. If they leave your yard, then your neighbor can trap it."

That leads to responsible adoption and ownership of pets, a "hot topic" with all the hoopla surrounding the recent Dalmatian issue following the release of Disney's "101 Dalmatians."

"The Dalmatian has brought all this to the forefront," Wagner explained. "People, especially those who've never had a pet, dream of a particular animal based purely on what it may look like. But people need to do research. A small- to medium-sized dog can easily live 15 years and that's a member of your family for that long. You don't just bring something in to be a part of your family for the way it looks."

Those with questions about various breeds can reference them in SPCA's small library, or Wagner suggests the public library as another option.

According to her, pet ownership is a matter of commitment.

"If they can't handle the commitment that comes with a dog, then you should get a pet that requires less of you — a cat or even a fish is a better option."

Wagner remembered one woman who brought a kitten into the shelter complaining that it was overly-friendly.

"We said, 'What do you mean too friendly?' She said, 'When I come home from work it wants to spend all of its time with me. It follows me around and wants me to play with it.'"

"It just breaks your heart," she said.

Wagner also dispels the various myths surrounding animals, such as the old wives' tale that cats will suck the breath out of babies and that a female should have one litter before spaying to ensure good



temperament.

"When people bring a pet in, you want to educate them so badly," she said, "but it's not a good time. About all you can do is try very hard to get their pet spayed or neutered. We keep (literature) that shows how fast animals reproduce, how many are euthanized, that kind of thing."

Still, Wagner loves the job. "Yes, it's a great job," she affirmed. "You feel like you are making a difference, even if it can be tiring."

When she's not at the SPCA, Wagner is also a member of Phi Beta Kappa and St. Nicholas Catholic church, where she is a lector. She is also president of the Virginia Beach Branch of the American Association of University Women.

Name: Susan Quinn Wagner.

What brought you to this area: My husband, Al Wagner, began working for The Virginian-Pilot.

Hometown: Roanoke.

Birthdate: Oct. 30, 1934.

Nickname: None.

Occupation: Education Director, Virginia Beach Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Marital Status: Widowed.

Children: Mark Wagner and Vicky Stellato, both living in Chesapeake and raising my four grandchildren.

Favorite movies: "Schindler's List" and "Blazing Saddles."

Magazines I read regularly: Smithsonian, Southern Living and Animals.

Favorite authors: Gail Godwin and Tom Robbins.

Favorite night out on the town: A matinee at Chrysler Hall or the Wells Theater, followed by a nice dinner out — all with good friends.

Favorite restaurants: Tautog's and Bienville Grill.

Favorite meal and beverage: Seafood and martinis (not together!).

What most people don't know about me: I spent 12 happy summers in Girl Scout camp.

Best thing about myself: I like to do something, I stick to it.

Worst habit: Between-meal snacking.

Pets: Frodo, a small terrier; Sam, a very large tabby cat; and, Princess, the SPCA's therapy dog, who lives at the shelter.

Ideal vacation: A trip with old friends to a new place with someone to teach us about the area and its people.

Hobbies: Reading, travel, gardening. Member of two book groups.

Pet peeves: Very bad grammar used by those who should know better.

First job: Babysitting.

Worst job: A summer on a weekly newspaper because the building was not air-conditioned and the lead type was melted about 10 feet from my desk.

Favorite sports: ACC basketball.

Favorite musicians: Tchaikovsky and the cast of almost any musical comedy.

Most embarrassing moment: I took a kitten and a boa constrictor to a school program. While I was acting cool, holding the snake and talking with a student, the snake was pushing its head through the bars of the kitten's cage.

I would like my epitaph to read: "Gone Back to the Mountains."

If I received \$1 million: I would pay off the mortgage of the SPCA's building, contribute to Parkinson's Disease research and plan a really wonderful trip.

If I had 10 minutes on national television: I'd bring along live animals and talk about the wise selection and responsible guardianship of pets.

Suspects sought in Burger King robbery

Virginia Beach police need your help in locating two men involved in a series of armed robberies of fast food restaurants in the month of January.

On Monday, Jan. 27 at about 7:30 p.m., two men entered the Burger King restaurant located at 5572 Princess Anne Rd. in the Arundel Shopping Center. They approached the food counter while brandishing a handgun and demanded



Suspect

money. After getting the money, they drove in a burgundy or red mini-van was seen in the area on a previous robbery.

The robbers are described as black, in their early 20s, approximately 6-foot-2-inches tall, with medium dark complexions. Both men had a slight mustache and goatee.

Continued From Page 2

pretended I was elsewhere.

Thirty minutes later the woman tapped my shoulder.

"All done!" she grinned, gesturing for me to look in the mirror.

I wasn't prepared. The haircut looked nothing like the picture — no sassy bob, no thick bangs. In fact, I really have no bangs. Instead, I was

staring at a version of Katie Couric's haircut. Just watch "The Today Show" on NBC and you'll see what I mean.

"It looks very professional," the stylist assured.

"Yeah," I thought, "but it's not what I asked for."

When I got home, I played with the style some. I could achieve one other look using lots of gel and hairspray,

but not the sassy Oriental bob.

I'm learning to live with the hair — or lack thereof. There's no new picture of me with the 'do yet, because I'm still waiting for a "good hair day."

As for being frumpy, Evan was taken back when he saw the new look.

"Where'd all your hair go?" he lamented.

"I'm very professional now, very chic," I answered.

He's learning to live with it, but still yearns for my long hair again. Men, go figure!

I look at it in this way. He's too busy worrying about my hair to comment on the clothes. But are they frumpy, too?

I think I'd better stop while I'm ahead.

Crime Solvers

By Detective Michael G. Derwent, Virginia Beach Police Department

THE ARTS

Heartwarming drama opens at Generic



CHECK IT OUT. Virginia Wesleyan College presents "The Merry Wives of Windsor" this weekend starring John Anderson and Michael Ross.

Va. Wesleyan stages 'Merry Wives' Shakespeare comedy

The theater department at Virginia Wesleyan College will present "The Merry Wives of Windsor," William Shakespeare's delightful comedy about Sir John Falstaff (played by local actor John Anderson), who is in love with not one but two women. The action takes place at the "Windsor Motel" in the 1950s. The play has a 20-member cast and the test has been reduced in length for modern audiences by

director Bentley Anderson, VWC professor of theater/com-munications.

"The Merry Wives of Windsor" opened Feb. 20 and continues Feb. 21 - 22, 26 - 28 and March 1 at 8 p.m. There will one matinee performance on Sunday, Feb. 23 at 2 p.m. Performances are in the Hofheimer theater. Admission is \$8 for adults; \$6 for senior citizens and students. For reservations, call 455-5700.

"Eleemosynary" by playwright Lee Blessing, opening at the Generic Theater Feb. 21, is a heartwarming story of hope and charity as the lives of Dorothea, a strong-willed mother, her daughter, Artemis, and granddaughter, Echo, converge and painful past and present fears are reconciled.

"Eleemosynary" is a metaphor for parents whose children are flying from the nest," said director Steven Harders. "It is a reminder that our hopes and expectations are what we own as individuals and are not transferable to our children."

With just three characters in the play, Harders has staged a drama, with utmost simplicity, that is sensitive and probing.

"Carol Chittum and Pam Manning bring a wealth of experience to their characters," said Harders. "Michelle Bass offers a freshness and vitality that constantly pushes at the edges. Together they transcend the intricacies of mother-daughter relationships."

Chittum portrays Dorothea, a woman who has found her independence in strong-willed eccentricity. She has extensive experience in theater throughout Hampton Roads and Richmond. She has performed with the Barter Theater, Theater IV, Barksdale Theater, Tidewater Dinner Theater and the Commonwealth Musical Theater.

Manning portrays Artemis (Artie), Dorothea's brilliant daughter who has fled the stifling domination of her mother. Manning has previously been seen at the Generic in "Ladies at the Alamo" and "As Is," as well as other productions locally including "Old Dominion University's Burning Azalea," for which she won the 1995 *Port Folio* Award for Best Supporting Actress.

Bass has the role of Artie's daughter, Echo, child of exceptional intelligence whom Artie has abandoned to an upbringing by Dorothea. A newcomer to the Hampton Roads theater community, Michelle Bass is making her first stage appearance since high school.

She has been involved in theater productions in Indianapolis, Indiana, and at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with roles in "Up the Down Staircase," "Bye, Bye, Birdie" and "Exit the Body."

"Eleemosynary" opens Friday, Feb. 21 and continues through March 16. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Admission is \$12 on Fridays and Saturdays, and \$10 on Thursdays and Sundays. Reservations are suggested.

The Generic Theater is an independent, non-profit professional theater.



SAY WHAT? If you wonder what "Eleemosynary" means, check out the Generic Theater production of the play by the same name. Opening Friday, it runs through March 16.

Music in Motion performs at Pavilion

Music in Motion Dance Company will present "An Evening of Legends" on Saturday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pavilion Theater in Virginia Beach.

Artistic Director Darlene Kelly has choreographed "The Legend of the Norwegian Lady."

Composer John Winsor wrote the original music for this piece, which will be played live by the Hardwick Chamber Ensemble. Vocalist Anita Lowery will be featured. The piece is an abstract modern styling telling the story of the Norwegian Lady and the wreck of the Dictator.

Former Music in Motion dancer Todd Stone has returned again this year from New York City to choreograph "The Little Prince." He is joined by his partner, Tami Stronach, in creating the piece, and both will dance in it along with six Music in Motion dancers. Stone and Stronach are graduates of State University of New York with bachelor's degrees in dance and are

choreographing and performing in New York. Their choreography has been shown in New York at the Cunningham Studio, Next Stage Theater, Dixon Place and the Mulberry Street Theater.

They will also perform another piece they have choreographed called "Tango 2000," which is an upbeat and current version of the Latin Tango. The dance "The Little Prince" is based on the timeless novel by Antoine DeSaint-Exupery and depicts the little prince's journey through a magical circus world.

Cynthia Free has choreographed "Legends in Time," danced in five sections. Each section will depict a dance based on the style of famous and legendary choreographers, including Jerome Robbins, Martha Graham, Twyla Tharp, George Balanchine and Agnes DeMille.

Amy Cluverius, a first-time dancer with Music in Motion, has choreographed "Fire on High." It depicts the legend of the

Witchduck witch trials, and through modern dance shows the audience the effects of good versus evil.

Music in Motion will be joined by Elbert Watson and Mara I. Smith, who will perform the piece "Othello." This piece was choreographed by Watson and is based on the Shakespearean play. Smith also has choreographed "Salata Sara," a

Hungarian children's story about vegetables taken to market.

Other dances in the show will represent jazz and ballet styles, and music will range from classical to contemporary.

Tickets at the door will be \$10 for adults and \$8 for senior citizens and students. For more information, call Darlene Kelly at 340-1534 or 467-3045.

VSC begins school touring program here

Virginia Stage Company (VSC) announces the beginning of a school touring program which will take theatrical performances produced by VSC into schools throughout Hampton Roads.

Although VSC has presented children's theatre in the past, this year's production, "The Oldest Story Ever Told," under the direction of Jefferson Lindquist, marks the first time VSC has embarked on a school tour with one of its own productions.

The colorful and imaginative one-act play meshes versions of the Cinderella story as told in three different cultures: African, Chinese and Indian. It is scheduled to be performed at 50 schools across Hampton Roads. Due to a strong response from schools, the tour has already been extended twice and is currently scheduled to run through Feb. 28.

Cinderella stories have been told for more than 1,000 years in diverse cultures throughout the world. There are 500 variations of the story in Europe alone! Throughout time, the story has been told to teach the values of patience, hard work and obedience, lessons that are overshadowed in the Walt Disney rags-to-riches version that most American children know. "The Oldest Story Ever Told" presents the tale in three cultural contexts and gives children the opportunity to compare the messages found in the various retellings of this universal story.

"The Oldest Story Ever Told" was written by David F. Ellet with music composed by Kenneth Kacmal. It is directed by

Jefferson Lindquist. VSC's director of education and outreach, in 1995, Lindquist directed the acclaimed VSC production of "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill." Last season he directed "The Belle of Amherst." Locally, he has also directed at the Generic Theater and the Governor's School for the Arts.

Members of the creative team include some veteran VSC star scenic charge Richard "Jake" Wood designed the scenery. Properties master Kathleen L. Martin designed props and puppets Rhy Shipman designed costumes.

Performing "The Oldest Story Ever Told" are Kelly LaGreca, Hannah Elizabeth Howard, Mark Woodward and Brad Paul Breckenridge.

La Greca and Howard are both graduates of the Governor's School for the Arts. Woodward has trained with Tommy Tune at Jacksonville University and Joanna Gleason at the Stella Adler Conservatory. He has been seen at the Kempville Playhouse, the Generic Theater and Virginia Opera. Brad Paul Breckenridge, a Norfolk University Player since 1993, appeared in last season's VSC production of "Hamlet." He has also appeared at the Generic Theater and at Summer Shakes, Inc.

"The Oldest Story Ever Told" will tour throughout Hampton Roads this spring and is expected to continue touring in the fall. Bookings are still being accepted. For information and reservations, schools can call Jefferson Lindquist at 627-6988, ext. 312.



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Classic movie hits offer lively night with Virginia Symphony

Musical hits from movie classics will be featured at the Virginia Symphony's third Pavilion Pops Series concert on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. Music Director and Conductor JoAnn Falletta will lead the orchestra in this performance. The sponsor of the Pavilion Pops Series is Tidewater Consultants Inc.

The program will include Williams' "Star Wars Medley," Ravel's "Bolero," Holcombe's "Hooray for Hollywood" and John/Zimmer's "Suite" from "The Lion King" among other family favorites.

Tickets for "Music at the Movies" are \$19 to \$28 and may be purchased by calling TicketMaster at 671-8100 (Southside), the Virginia Symphony Ticket Store at 623-2310 (Southside), or any Tidewater First Virginia Bank. Special student tickets are available for only \$8 and discounts are also available for groups, senior citizens and military.

Virginia Symphony sponsors include USAir and Norfolk Waterside Marriott.

'Living Pictures' tell Christ's story

Living Pictures '97, a production of Kempville Church of Christ, is a musical dramatization of the life of Christ. It is a wonderful presentation blending music, drama and "living scenes."

More than 150 men, women and children make up the cast

and crew, all of whom are attendees at Kempville Church of Christ.

The performance dates are March 16, 19, 21, 22 and 23, 7 p.m. nightly. Admission is free and seating is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

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Vo-tech: preparation for life

Open house highlighted Va. Beach program

BY PENNY A. POWELL
Sun Correspondent

Virginia Beach Technical and Career Education Center has something for everyone — 27 different programs designed to prepare students for the real world. The public was exposed to all 27 of those programs at its annual open house last week.

"I would encourage people not to even think of this kind of education as different from mainstream education," said Principal William G. Mooshar, "because in my judgment it is part of mainstream education."

"We're really just an extension of the 10 high schools and we offer elective courses just like those that are offered in any of the 10 high schools except that we give kids a chance to get started on a career before they leave high school."

Vo-tech students have the opportunity to receive advanced college credit since 13 of the diversified programs are articulated with Tidewater Community College (TCC), and some of TCC's courses are actually taught at the North Landing Road center. The opportunity for internship placements scores big points with potential students, and last year 94 percent of vo-tech's students obtained full-time employment as a result of their student internships.

Jennifer Holloman says that the internship component was one of the major reasons that her son, 17-year-old Ray Caldwell, was attracted to the center. Caldwell is currently enrolled in the Offset Printing program. He looks forward to Printing 11 next year.

Vo-tech's programs are so widespread that students have many options when choosing their field of study and the overall



HARD AT WORK. Kim Meyer, senior Advertising Design student, was busy work on her three-dimensional designs at vo-tech's recent open house.

male/female ratio is relatively equal.

Currently, there are 879 students enrolled in the school's morning or afternoon sessions.

Moosha explained that courses are taught during three period blocks, therefore, morning-session students are present from 8 - 10:30 a.m., and then they spend the afternoon at their home-school.

A shuttle bus from their home-school transports students to and from North Landing Road. The afternoon session takes place from 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. for the other junior and senior high-schoolers, however, at the end of their school day a bus will transport them directly to their homes.

Jason Richardson, a ninth-grader, is considering future enrollment at vo-tech. He and his father, Allan Richardson, attended this year's open house to see just what it offers in the fields of advertising and drafting. Because the father attended the Vocational Center in Norfolk in 1971 and 1972, he has a great understanding of vocational training.

"I understand how the program works, so I thought Jason would really benefit from this type of program," he said.

Allan studied drafting during his vocational training years and that's what he does for a living, so he says that the training, "carried him right through."

As the father and son observed the current advertising design students busily working on the computers in the advertising lab, the head of that department, Jean Judith Doyle, gave them details about her course — a two-year, 1,080-hours course which is well-known by most of the major arts schools in the country.

As Doyle casually chatted with Jason and his father, she kept no secrets about the program from them.

"It's a very, very intense program," she said. "I'm a hard-nose — I work you to death. You're up against deadlines all the time. If you miss your deadline you get an E for that project, because in the work world if you miss a deadline you lose a client — you lose your job. We're a professional school."

However, Doyle's tough demands brings the best out of her students.

A former student whom she trained took second place in an international competition; and Margaret Thatcher was the one who hung the silver medal around that student's neck. Vo-Tech's advertising design students also designed the Virginia Beach license plates and senior student, Kim Meyer, designed the Virginia Beach Health Department logo and was to be interviewed by the Mayor Meyers Oberdorf the day after the open house.

Automotive Service Technology area was another popular site at the open house. Mark Maund runs that program and has taken some time approaches to captivating and keeping his students interested in that field.

"We're trying to replace the Baby Boomers who are going to retire," he said. "There will be 86,000 technicians short by the year 2000."

Perhaps, 17-year-old Thomas Ray and Craig Wolfe, students of Maund, will help the Baby-Boomer situation that Maund spoke of — these students were at the open

house in full support of their study program.

"The pay is very good in this industry and it's a very nice hobby to have," said Ray. "On top of that, it's a skill you can use for life even if you decide later in life you don't want it to be your career — it's always helpful to know how to work on your own car."

Ray has an internship at Hilltop Texaco.

William Fulford, owner of the Fulford Family Race Team's Top Alcohol Funny Car, and Matt Wirt, owner of Matt Wirt Racefab Engineering, are key players in Maund's program. Fulford, a long-time friend of Maund's, volunteers his time at the center to allow students to administer auto-body repairs and maintenance to his nifty car.

He says that Maund was looking to do something "different and irregular with the students. The students sometimes even get to go to Fulford's home to work on the masterpiece."

"We run a national circuit which is on ESPN and CNN every week," explained Fulford, therefore, students even get the opportunity to make television appearances from time to time. "In this business you've got to be real professional, you've got to be real clean-cut, you can't do anything stupid like drugs and alcohol," said Fulford.

Next September Fulford plans to apply for the carpentry teacher position at vo-tech.

Wirt builds race cars. "Whenever we come up with a new product I'll bring in the technical advice suit," he said. "I get to show them (students) stuff that they've never seen before — stuff that they've only either heard about or read about so that's pretty exciting."

Fulford and Wirt have been great motivators to students at the Center and this is certainly reflected in the student's grades.

Bobby Vaughn, the father of 16-year-old vo-tech student Jimmy Vaughn, attended the open house in support of vo-tech's programs — plus, an old Ford Granada motor that was on display. Jimmy had rebuilt the motor and proudly guarded the large piece of equipment displayed in the hallway as potential students and their families took a peek at it as they passed by at the open house.

"If I break something maybe he can fix it for me," said Bobby, "because he's already more mechanically inclined than I am."

About the school, Jimmy said, "It's a very good school. I've learned a lot from it. His father added, "It's a much needed source because it takes everything to make this world go round."

"The school here is fantastic," said R. William Graham, the school-to-work transition coordinator. "It's real life, real work, plans for the future and here people actually go to work if they want to go to work when they finish or they go on to continuing education. We work with the community."



Photo by Margaret Windley

Have a heart!

North Landing Elementary School students pitched in to help the American Heart Association last month by holding a "Jump Rope For Heart" fund-raiser. Grades one through five participated, with youth jumping for two minutes then resting. In turn, the students collect donations for their heart-healthy activity. The event was held in observance of National Heart Month.

Lace up those running shoes!

Plan now to participate in the race of the year! The annual Run For Independence will be held on Saturday, March 1. All proceeds will benefit Independence Middle School. The race will begin at the school parking lot in the Bayside Borough of Virginia Beach. The flat course on asphalt starts at the school and circles through the Thoroughgood neighborhood.

Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group Two, US Navy, will be there with their dive tank. They will be doing scuba demonstrations. The awards will begin about 11 a.m. Random prizes will also be given throughout the morning.

Registration fee is \$10 for all races. (\$6 for Independence students.) Enter three or more per family and the fee is \$5 each (pre-registration only). The fee will be \$15 for races for entries post-marked after Feb. 21. Mail entries to Monica Allard, c/o Independence Middle School, 1370 Dunstan Ln. Virginia Beach, VA. 23455. Make checks payable to Independence Middle School.

Time of registration on the day of the race will be from 8 - 9 a.m. in the school cafeteria. The 5K Run will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the 1-Mile Run and 1-Mile Health Walk will begin at 10:15 a.m.

T-shirts are guaranteed to all participants who pre-register. The design for the T-shirt was done by Logan Davis, an eighth student at

Independence. It features a soaring eagle that turns into a runner.

Refreshments will be available after the race. For additional information, contact Allard, ace director, at 460-7500.

CBN Ministry plans conference

CBN Ministry Events presents Caught Up In His Presence — a religious conference focusing on the spiritual issues of healing, prayer and teachings from the Bible, the conference will be held March 20 - 23 at The Founders Inn and Conference Center located on the grounds of The Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), Virginia Beach.

This four-day event include 15 hours of teaching and ministry, special praise and worship, and a Saturday evening banquet.

The conference features international teachers and speakers including Dr. Myles Munroe, author, educator, government consultant and founder of Bahamas Faith Ministries International, a network of ministries with headquarters in Nassau Bahamas, and, Dr. Kingsley Fletcher, acclaimed lecturer, evangelist, Christian leader and pastor of Miracle Life Church located in Durham, N.C.

For more information and registration, call 1-800-677-8117.



SOUNDS GOOD. Jason Richardson and his father, Allan, get details about vo-tech's Advertising Design program from instructor Jean Judith Doyle.

Beach volunteer achievers to be recognized

Virginia Beach boasts many volunteer achievers as VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads announces the 1997 Hampton Roads Volunteer Achievement Award honorees. These honorees will be recognized at the annual awards banquet on March 6 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott from 6 - 9 p.m. Out of 35 recipients in all, seven individuals and two groups are from Virginia Beach.

"The purpose of the Hampton Roads Volunteer Achievement Award is to honor volunteers who have exhibited exceptional volunteer efforts in their

communities and in the organizations they represent," noted Paula Cook, executive director of VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads.

The individuals from Virginia Beach receiving the 1997 Hampton Roads Volunteer Achievement Awards are Jeff Albert, Connie Sue Brown, Eugene F. Crabtree Sr., Gerald A. Lavandosky, Michael Poyner, Wayne Francis Richardson and Aleci G. Romero. The two Virginia Beach groups receiving this award are The Making a Difference Foundation and the Virginia Marine Science Museum's Discovery Docents.

Selection of the finalists for this year's Hampton Roads Volunteer Achievement Award was based upon the nominees' level of participation and the impact their service had on the organization and the community.

An anniversary Founders Award will be presented to the Junior League of Norfolk/Virginia Beach for establishing the Volunteer Services Bureau, as it was named in 1957.

VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads was founded in 1957 to mobilize people and resources to solve critical problems, meet community

needs and enhance the quality of life in South Hampton Roads. VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads recruits and refers volunteers; provides volunteer management training among other issues to non-profit agencies; promotes volunteerism and volunteer opportunities through media and publications; and, recognizes Hampton Roads volunteers at two annual awards banquets.

Call VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads at 624-2400 for ticket information for the 1997 Hampton Roads Volunteer Achievement Awards.

Driven to read

Parkway Elementary School celebrated a successful reading month with a car show based on the theme "Race to Read." The goal for reading month was 5,000 books. Students far exceeded in, reading a total of 11,725 books. As a reward, vehicles from Beach Ford, Checkered Flag Toyota, Checkered Flag Porsche, Audi, BMW and Mega Mazda were displayed. Students got quite an eyeful of the cars and vowed they were driven to read.



Courtesy Photo

Reading buddies

Throughout Strawbridge Elementary School's observation of Reading Month, "celebrity readers" have included Mayor Meyers Oberdorf, city council members, DARE officers, city administrators and even the Ocean Lakes High School baseball team. Faculty members have been sharing their favorite childhood reading memories during morning announcements. Snuggle Up With A Book Day provided a half-day of special reading activities. Among those who enjoyed spending time with the children for a special story session was city councilwoman Louisa Strayhorn, who found a new friend in first grader Amelia Castro-Mendoza.

HAMPTON ROADS ON THE MOVE

Norfolk entrepreneur soothes stress through hypnotherapy

Editor's note: This is the first in a two-part series. The series will conclude next week.
By Shawna Chris

When you first walk into Crystal-Lind on Colley Avenue in Norfolk, your tension starts dissolving and you seem to feel more relaxed and at ease. Maybe it's watching the students as they shape pottery into the forms of angels. Or maybe it's the smell of the clay or the sound of Gregorian chants on the stereo.

Hypnotherapy is simply guided relaxation. As another client said, "Everybody works their own cure — hypnosis is the vehicle."

Under hypnosis I addressed events and issues that were bothering me. I didn't even realize certain memories were coloring my perception of current events in my life until I gave my subconscious mind the time and forum in which to open up.

With each session my attitude, my outlook and my health began to change for the better.

Under hypnosis you quiet your conscious mind so the therapist can give helpful suggestions to your subconscious mind.

Perhaps, more likely, it's the soothing, welcoming demeanor of Crystal-Lind's co-founder, Patricia M. Lindgren.

Whatever it is — it feels good. At least that's how I felt when I walked into Crystal-Lind to sign up for a pottery class. Little did I know then that I was walking into a healing center and taking the first step on a wonderful and, I dare say, life-transforming journey.

I had been on medication for a couple of years to calm my panic/anxiety attacks. These attacks, I was assured by at least five different doctors, psychiatrists and psychologists, were the result of a chemical imbalance that was genetic in origin.

I was taking anti-depressant and anti-anxiety medication and was convinced the attacks were completely out of my control. When Lindgren offered an alternative, I was skeptical. Very skeptical.

But I was also open to the idea there was something I could do besides being a helpless victim to my chemistry.

I still wondered how I could change my genetic make-up?

The first step, Lindgren said, was to change my attitude. She suggested hypnotherapy, although Crystal-Lind also offers Reiki and clay therapy sessions.

Why hypnosis? Under hypnosis you quiet your conscious mind so the therapist can give helpful suggestions to your subconscious mind, which is more in tune with your body.

I no longer assumed that everything that happened to me was a personal attack. Before this, if someone cut me off in traffic, I wanted to kill them. Really.

I would imagine their car spinning off the road uncontrollably and bursting into flames. I was sure they had to have seen my car and purposely cut me off just to make me angry. And I got angry. I got really angry about a lot of things. I found out it was unhealthy and unnecessary.

Before undergoing hypnotherapy, I didn't realize I could control my emotional reaction to other people's actions.

I knew how to "put on a happy face" when I was needing inside, but I didn't really know how to diffuse the anger.

When I discovered there was an alternative way to look at things, my life started improving dramatically.

The first thing I notice is that I was happier.

I had more control — not over what was going on around me, but how I would interpret and react to whatever happened.

I started sleeping better. I had once gone for two months without sleeping. I had regular bouts of insomnia — until I went to Crystal-Lind.

Even more amazing is that I managed to get on a cross-country flight. I hadn't been able to get near an airport, much less get on an airplane since my panic attacks started. At least I



GUIDED RELAXATION. Crystal-Lind's co-founder, Patricia M. Lindgren, works with customer Shawna Chris during a recent hypnotherapy session.

hadn't been able to get on a plane without sedating myself to the point of near unconsciousness.

Now I could fly on shorter flights without any medication, and longer flights with a fraction of the sedatives I used to take.

Finally, the most tangible and measurable difference is that I no longer needed to take the anti-depressant and anti-anxiety medication on a daily basis. I would go months without any medication or panic attacks. When I would have the occasional episode, many times I could control the anxiety through meditation.

Meditation is something else I learned while doing hypnosis. I found I could calm my mind when I started getting anxious and usually head off a panic attack.

Also, I started exercising more and eating better. I became more spiritual. Basically, my whole

lifestyle changed.

These things just happened gradually and naturally. I did them because I wanted to and not because I was forcing myself.

That's another thing I learned.

I listen to my body and pay attention to what it's telling me. I don't force myself to do things that don't feel right. I mustered the courage to quit a well-paying job that was boring, to start my own business — just because it felt like the right thing to do.

Many people will call this crazy, but I am much happier than I was before.

Others will call it luck, but I believe that we all make our own luck. I was lucky the day I walked into Crystal-Lind.

I think my story is pretty amazing, but it's certainly not unique. Many people have changed their lives for the better with the help of Crystal-Lind.

Shawna Chris is a customer of Crystal-Lind Inc.

Hampton Roads chamber welcomes a few new faces

Keith A. Norden has joined the staff of Forward Hampton Roads, the economic development division of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce.

As vice president of marketing for Forward Hampton Roads, Norden will be responsible for domestic and international business recruitment. He also will work with prospects considering Hampton Roads as a business location.

Prior to joining forward Hampton Roads, Norden was a national product manager for the Virginia Economic Development Partnership. While there he was directly involved with the recruitment of nationally-known companies, including Ralston Purina, Whitney Rand, R.R. Donnelley and Harris Select. He also coordinated several activities for the governor's office.

Norden holds a bachelor's degree in business management/marketing from Old Dominion University and the Institute of Financial Education. He is a graduate of the Economic Development Institute, University of Oklahoma, and earned his Certified Economic Developer certification in 1996.

In addition, two Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce staff members have accepted different jobs within the organization.

Lynda Jo Norred was appointed account executive, advertising sales. She is responsible for all advertising in chamber publications. She had been

working since 1994 as an account executive based in the Norfolk office and was the Account Executive of the Year in 1995.

Judy L. McPhee, a chamber employee since 1994 is now the chamber's communications assistant. Formerly the regional program assistant, McPhee will help manage the day-to-day operations in the communications department.

Also, Amy G. Bull has returned to the staff of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce as director, communications and public information.

She was the chamber's communications manager and business contact editor for three years before leaving in October 1995 to join the Virginia Port Authority as public relations coordinator.

In her new position, Bull will be responsible for media relations, publication management and development, graphics and print management and internal communications.

Bull holds a bachelor's degree in journalism/public relations from the University of North Texas.

She replaces Connie W. Long who was promoted to vice president, membership and organizational development.

The Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce is a 3,000 member-firm business action organization committed to building the business climate, providing for future economic expansion and improving the quality of life in Hampton Roads.

Develop a financial strategy

John W. Carter recently left active duty in the U.S. Navy and started his own business in Chesapeake.

Carter's mission is to help families and small business owners develop a long-term financial strategy and investment in their futures.

Carter plans to continue his Navy affiliation through the

Selected Reserve. He has been a Chesapeake resident since May, 1994 and plans to make it his home.

He has a bachelor's degree from Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. and a master's degree from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif.

Call Carter at 482-1729 for more information.

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Courtesy Photos



Bubbling over!

The students in Frances Sellow's second-grade class at Linkhorn Park Elementary recently studied matter, ending with a fun-filled afternoon of bubble play. Using coat hangers, berry baskets, straws, sieves, a variety of homemade cylinders and even their fingers, the students made bubbles of all sizes and learned the principles of gas, liquid and solid.

Citizen lobbyist lauded

Betty Hansel honored by women's group

By PENNY POWELL
Sun Correspondent

When one congratulates Betty Hansel on receiving her most recent honor, the Concerned Women for America (CWA) of Virginia's Citizen Lobbyist Award, the Virginia Beach woman immediately diverts the attention from herself to other lobbyists to whom "she stands in awe."

State Director of CWA Patricia Phillips was absolutely right when she said that Hansel is an extremely modest person.

"She's the type of volunteer every organization is jealous of, because she does believe so wholeheartedly in the issues of concern and is so devoted to making phone calls and taking action," explained Phillips. "You just need to give her the information; you don't need to motivate her — She understands the issues. She's just a great kind of person to work with."

Hansel, who received the Outstanding Citizen Award last year from the Family Foundation, was most recently awarded at CWA's annual Citizen Lobby Day. CWA is the largest women's organization nationwide, with almost 16,000 members in Virginia. It was formed in 1979 by Dr. Beverly LaHaye.

Virginia Beach's Sen. Mark Earley presented the latest honor. Just as he is fond of her, thus encouraged by Hansel's dedication to taking a firm stand for change, she is equally fond of him.

"He sees the progress we've made," said Hansel, "and that is encouraging to us to hear him say, 'Oh you just keep on keeping on,' she said with a laugh."

Hansel also noted that when Earley first took office there was only one other Republican in the senate with him, "and today it's even," she said. "There are 15 Republicans and 15 Democrats."

With a laugh, Hansel said that she never knows exactly how to describe her volunteer work when people ask her to explain exactly what she does.

Perhaps Phillips answered for her. "She knows the road to Richmond very well. She does go up there a lot for committee meetings, hearings, rallies and things like that. She's always calling to encourage and invite other people to go with her."

According to Hansel, making frequent trips to the place where all of the state's legislative action takes place is simply a part of her civic obligation to the community, and so she strongly encourages others to realize this and jump on-board. She's convinced that people will start to get involved "the more we get the word out there to people and they realize that they can make a difference. This is a mission field in the sense that one person can make a difference."

It was Hansel's participation in a March for Life about five years ago that really opened her eyes to the way things really are and what citizens really need to do. "I really just had no idea that so many abortions were being committed," she said. "It just broke my heart. I remember

coming home and I couldn't sleep that night."

Amazed at how out of touch Hansel had been with what was going on in the community encouraged her to do something about it. She suddenly realized that it was time to become involved on the outside of her four walls — her home and her church.

"Somehow I thought the political arena was the world," said Hansel. She once believed that Christians were only supposed to vote, but not get involved in worldly issues.

"That's an old belief of Christians," said the Baptist college alumna. It was at Carson Newman College, a Baptist school in Tennessee where Hansel and her husband met. She studied elementary education, not knowing that one day she would "live all over" as a result of her husband's Air Force career.



Courtesy Photos

OUTSTANDING JOB. Virginia Beach resident Betty Hansel, center, is lauded for her lobbying efforts by Patricia Phillips of Concerned Women for America and Sen. Mark Earley.

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"She's the type of volunteer every organization is jealous of,"
Patricia Phillips, CWA director

"We moved on an average of every two years," said Hansel, who was born in Western Virginia but grew up Kingsport, Tenn.

Most of her elementary education background was applied to the homefront rather than the workplace, because she only taught for about six months before she began raising a family of four boys.

Today Hansel attributes her full-time mom status, moving frequently, and always staying abreast of the educational arena during her sons' school days as other areas which helped her to realize why she needed to become active in lobbying for the issues which affect the children of this country's future.

Although she's spent most of her life on the homefront rearing her sons, later in life she realized that being a stay-at-home mom was not the only thing that was going to really make a difference in her children's lives.

Her sons might have all been grown when Hansel really rolled up her sleeves and got involved in the political arena, but now she's making a difference for

younger generations such as her three granddaughters and the thousands of other children in this country.

As a member of Kempville Presbyterian Church, Hansel is also active in the church's Community Nations Task Force, which makes frequent trips to Richmond to support or oppose issues at hand. Hansel said that whenever it is time to make a trip to Richmond, "I can count on those faithful 12 of us who usually can go up just about every time."

However, the task force also try to get people from other churches and groups to go along with them each time.

One of Hansel's visions is that all churches become aware and take action in the lobbying process. Once she learned about the Christian Coalition's Voters Guide, Hansel began her mission of getting voter guides into the churches.

"One of my real desires is to see all of the different churches and different group network," she said. She believes that such a variety of talent would make the Beach's lobbying team even stronger.

Receiving favorable responses from her networking efforts is one of her favorite rewards. Through her numerous calls to individuals, churches and other organizations, Hansel often leaves recorded messages about upcoming Richmond trips and invites the person or group called to come along.

When people call back and say that they want to make the trip to fight gambling or lobby for parental rights and education or whatever the issue may be, Hansel says she finds some real satisfaction in that. For her that's just as exciting and rewarding as receiving an award.

Enthusiastic about a recent trip to Richmond to lobby for parental rights, Hansel said that the event was "history making," because that was probably the largest group that had ever attended a committee hearing — about 700 or 800 people statewide were there, she said. A bus load of about 60 people travelled from this area.

In awe of lobbyists such as Robin DeJarnette and Patricia Phillips, Hansel said, "There are other people who are doing all the crucial work. I'm just one of those people, who, when they give it to me I try to get it out to other people."



Courtesy Photos

Kids eat up cultural cuisine

Once a month students and teachers at Trantwood Elementary School are given a few extra minutes on their way to lunch to visit with a local artist demonstrating crafts outside the cafeteria. Parents are invited to join in on the extra helping of culture, then stay and have lunch with their child. Nancy Hendrix, who teaches classes at the Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Pottery Studio, demonstrated techniques during one recent visit.

Get geared for spring

By JANE ROWE
Sun Correspondent

It's February again, and while spring's not in the air yet, it's at least on everyone's mind. It's also beginning to emerge in the flower gardens, woods and rivers, area outdoorsman say.

You don't have to look hard to see the season's first shy, tentative signs this year. Thanks to a mild winter, the native red maples are budding, some jonquils and crocuses are already in bloom, and last fall's pines are still hanging in there.

Balmy temperatures also made it possible to catch bass off and on all winter, and some area fishermen are already catching perch.

That, hunting and fishing guide Jim Clark said, is a sure sign that the season's changing.

I know a couple of guys who caught 14 bass a few weeks ago," Clark said. "And they're catching the yellow perch now, they come into the North Landing and North Rivers to spawn in February." Yellow perch, which are sometimes referred to as ring perch, will be followed by the white perch which will arrive a little later this season, Clark said.

The trouble is, humans sometimes have a harder time adapting to the change than the frost-hardy plants and animals that show up in February and March.

"The rivers are full of perch," Clark said, "but it takes a hardy fisherman to chase these things down 'because it's cold out there right now.'"

The cold's likely to hang around for another month or so, but it probably won't hurt the perennials that are already beginning to bud, according to Virginia Beach extension agent Randy Jackson. He added that this year's, season temperatures didn't seem to hurt the plants much, and the worst is probably over for this winter.

This area usually experiences its coldest temperatures in January, according to Jackson, but late winter and early spring is the season for snow and ice storms.

"It's a little late for winter damage now, although there is a potential for snow and ice storms, and ice can be damaging to shrubs and trees," he said. "Snow is usually a good insulator and it's best to have a snow cover in very cold weather."

It'll soon be time to remove the winter mulch from around the perennials, Jackson added, and March is the best time to treat your lawn against crab grass. "In the last 10 to 14 days, a lot of perennials have come up, and mulch should be pulled off in late February or March."

Jackson's noticed a few crocus blooming lately and the daffodils, day lilies and iris are beginning to send shoots up out of the ground. But for late winter blooms, pansies and violas are your best bet.

These colorful flowers survive



SPRING IS IN THE AIR. The calendar may say otherwise, but Mother Nature is ready to burst forth.

cold snaps because they produce their own anti-freeze, and, if they're cared for, they'll bloom off and on until May, Jackson said. If you missed pansy-planting season last fall and you're too impatient to wait for spring, it's okay to go ahead and transplant them outdoors now if you can find any in area nurseries.

"You can put them out now," Jackson said, "just don't bring them from a warm place out into the cold directly. But most of the pansies you'll find now have probably been outdoors anyway."

Feed pansies and violas about once a month during mild snaps and they'll prove to be "a wonderful plant for winter color," Jackson added. "I love the violas, they're a little higher than the pansies, and they blow in the wind and produce a meadow effect."

You don't have to look hard to see the season's first shy, tentative signs this year.

The farmers aren't so happy with the recent weather however, according to agriculture director Louis Cullipher. While flower gardeners are excited about this year's weather, too much rain is likely to make for a late spring for the produce farmers.

"We have a lot of concerns about the weather," Cullipher said. "For one thing, the farmers haven't been able to get into the fields to put the nitrogen on their wheat crops. That normally should be applied in February."

Farmers also start plowing for early crops, including potatoes and peas, in late February "if the weather permits." But the outlook's bleak for this year.

"We really didn't need this water," Cullipher said, referring to the inch of rain that fell last weekend.

The key word, he said, is evapotranspiration, or the amount of time it takes for water to evaporate or become absorbed by plants. During the winter, when most trees are dormant and the weather's cold "it takes a long time for an inch of water to drain, especially when the soil's already saturated."

Heavy rains and abnormally high wind ideas from Back Bay have produced wet conditions since last summer, and Cullipher adds that farmers need sunny weather and strong northwest winds to dry the land enough to plow.

Vickie Shufer's also noticed some jonquils blooming "on the south slope" at her Blackwater home. But Shufer, a native plant expert, is most excited about the "creaky greens," the local cousins of watercress that grow wild this time of year.

While winter weeds, including the chickweed that appears in your yard this time of year is a bane to many homeowners, they aren't really the pest they're made out to be, Shufer said. At the worst, they'll disappear with the season's first warm weather, so there's really no need to worry about putting down herbicides to kill them.

And, if you have a taste for wild greens, they're very delicious, she added, and some gardeners are even becoming interested in cultivating them. The problem is, if they're set out now, they'll have a very short growing season.

"As soon as the weather begins to warm up, in March, they'll bolt and go to seed," she said. "Some of the bitter cresses are already going to seed now."

"The cresses are members of the mustard family," Shufer continued, "and the ones that grow around here are mostly the upland cresses, which is an upland version of the watercress. The taste is similar."

Shufer's also noticed that the red maples are starting to bloom and she's even seen a dandelion or two. "The red maples will bring the honeybees out," she said, "and when I see the dandelions, I think spring's here. It's like seeing a robin."

Shipwrecks are John Broadwater's business

By BOB RUEGSEGG
Sun Correspondent

It's no mere coincidence that the area of the Atlantic Ocean along the Virginia Capes and North Carolina's Outer Banks is referred to as the "Graveyard of the Atlantic" because that's exactly what it is — a resting place for shipwreck carcasses.

From time to time, especially after northeasters, large and small shipwreck fragments wash ashore at Virginia Beach. Buried in the sand and preserved offshore, the shipwreck debris is excavated by Mother Nature and tossed on the beach.

As anyone who attended the Old Coast Guard Station Museum's program "How Old Is It? Can I Have It? Shipwreck Timbers on the Beach" lecture at the Virginia Center for Contemporary Art can tell you, no one knows that better than John Broadwater.

He was on hand to share his expertise with interested guests on Sunday.

Perhaps no wreck — with the exception of the Titanic — has received more attention than that of the Civil War ironclad USS Monitor, which sank in a gale off Cape Hatteras in December of 1862 while in tow by the sidewheel Steamer Rhodé Island.

Broadwater was the underwater archaeologist responsible for developing a plan to protect what remained of the Monitor's fragile hull.

His first dive on the Monitor made a big personal impression on him. His task was to place a reference marker near the vessel which rests on the bottom in an inverted position — upside down if you will — upon the turret. Broadwater was alone on the bottom — out of sight the submarine from which he exited.

He became aware of the shadow of the wreck overhead and felt the impact of the historical significance of the ironclad. This was the ship that the Confederate gunners derisively described as a "cheesebox on a raft." Rebel laughter ceased abruptly when the Monitor fought the formidable ironclad CSS Virginia to a draw in the harbor at Hampton Roads on March 9, 1862.

That battle marked the end of an era for sail-driven, wooden-hulled men-of-war.

About 16 miles south of Cape Hatteras, N.C., the bottom of the Atlantic where the Monitor lies has been designated as the Monitor National Marine

Sanctuary, and Broadwater has been its manager since April of 1992.

Since that time Broadwater has organized and directed several major expeditions to the Civil War-era wreck. In 1995, organized an attempt to salvage the propeller of the famous ironclad, Bad weather.

As Virginia's senior underwater archaeologist, Broadwater oversaw an underwater study and survey of shipwrecks in the murky waters of the York River from the Battle of Yorktown in 1781 and developed an underwater archaeology plan for the entire state.

"Secrets of a Yorktown Shipwreck," an article by Broadwater, was published in the June 1988 edition of *National Geographic*. Broadwater proved that some of the Revolutionary War vessels preserved in the silt of the York River had been intentionally scuttled by the British.

Broadwater's 25 years of field experience in underwater archaeology with an emphasis on ship construction. New World shipwrecks have made him an invaluable source of information to Fielding Tyler, director of the Old Coast Guard Station Museum, in tagging and identifying ancient shipwreck debris that occasionally washes up at the Virginia Beach oceanfront during and after storm.

Tyler has voluntarily added the responsibility for tagging and identifying shipwreck fragments that wash up at the Virginia Beach oceanfront to his duties as museum director. He has assumed this obligation because, in part, "There's no one else to do it."

When Tyler is notified of shipwreck timbers and hull fragments that have turned up at the oceanfront, he rushes off to tag the remains and calls upon John Broadwater's expertise to attempt classification and identification.

Whereas positive identification of the exact shipwreck from which the timbers and hull fragments might have come is next to impossible, Broadwater can often narrow the possibilities by evaluating the construction materials and techniques. He explains that he can learn as much from the context in which the fragments are found as he can from the debris itself.

According to Broadwater, wreck timbers and hull segments found with other artifacts are the



PIECES OF THE PAST. The propeller that sits outside The Old Coast Guard Station Museum can offer insight into history, as lecturer John Broadwater explained last week.

most useful in narrowing the possibilities. Side and lower hull sections are more helpful in estimating the size of a ship than bottom sections.

"Beach wrecks in general are sterile and abused. There's nothing like finding an intact artifact, Broadwater insists.

Intact shipwrecks and artifacts such as those Broadwater explored in the York River are the source of "personal impressions" of the people who lived and worked aboard the ships.

In the hull of a Yorktown shipwreck, the yellow silk ribbon cockade that Broadwater found in a British bosun's storeroom, a ceramic monkey and a neatly chiseled hole in the side have made "a lasting personal impression on him.

From Broadwater's perspective, the best thing that a private citizen in Virginia Beach can do to assure that shipwreck timbers and hull fragments get the proper attention and treatment is to contact Tyler and his staff at the Old Coast Guard Station.

They'll tag, measure, sketch and remove fragments that are of historic value. Although they can't promise that they will be able to identify the source of the fragments, they'll do their best — along with Broadwater — to get to the bottom of it.



VERY INTERESTING. Marine archaeologist John Broadwater examines a "tree nail" donated by False Cape Flynn during a weekend lecture.

located at the southwestern extremity of Ridge Road. Said parcel contains 1.82 acres. VIRGINIA BEACH BOROUGH.

2. An Ordinance upon Application of Rignano, L.L.C., for a Change of Zoning District Classification from AG-1 & AG-2 Agricultural Districts to Conditional R-7.5 Residential District at the southeast intersection of Holland Road and Proposed Ferrell Parkway. The proposed zoning classification change to Conditional R-7.5 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 7,500 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban low density at densities that are compatible with single-family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel contains 12 acres. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

3. An Ordinance upon Application of Moore Farm Associates for a Change of Zoning District Classification from B-2 Community Business District to A-12 Apartment District on certain property located at the northeast corner of Wesleyan Drive and Heatherwood Drive. The proposed zoning classification change to A-12 is for multifamily residential land use at a density no greater than 12 dwelling units per acre. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for retail/service use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel contains 1.816 acres. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

4. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance, Subdivision for Baymark Construction Corporation. Property is located on the north side of Indian River Road, 5000 feet more or less west of West Neck Road. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

5. An Ordinance upon Application of Baymark Construction Corporation for a Conditional Change of Zoning District Classification from AG-1 and AG-2 Agricultural Districts to Conditional R-40 Residential District on certain property located on the north side of Indian River Road, 5000 feet more or less west of West Neck Road. The proposed zoning classification change to Conditional R-40 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 40,000 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for agricultural use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel contains 36 acres. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

6. Application of Baymark Construction Corporation for the modification of conditions placed on applications for changes of zoning on January 4, 1994. Property is located on the north side of Indian River Road, west of West Neck Road. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

7. Motion of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, to amend and renumber Sections 30-57, 30-61 and 30-75 of the City Code pertaining to the Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance.

8. An Ordinance upon Application of RHEMA Outreach Center for a Conditional Use Permit for a church at the southeast corner of Baker Road and Weblin Drive. Said parcel is located at 800 Baker Road and contains 3 acres more or less. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

Continued On Page 9

Healing Wall eases pain of children lost to violence

By LINDA ALEXANDER
Sun Intern

In 1986, Jacqueline McDonald lost a son to violence and couldn't bear the pain of visiting the cemetery. A mural was put up in her neighborhood so people could mourn the loss.

In 1988, she lost another son. She still could not bear to visit the cemetery, nor could she afford a tombstone for either of her sons. She came up with the idea to put all slain children's names on a wall to help her and other mothers heal together.

With the help of Rosewood Memorial Park and Kellum Funeral Home, her vision has become a reality.

"The Healing Wall," a memorial to Tidewater children who were killed by acts of violence, was unveiled at Rosewood Memorial Park on Sunday.

The project was sponsored by Mothers Against Crime (MAC), a

Norfolk-based organization headed by McDonald. The memorial and its perpetual care were donated by Rosewood and Kellum Funeral Home at no cost to MAC.

About 100 people attended the public ceremony, which began with a service at the chapel at Rosewood and continued with a procession to the wall led by the Norfolk State University ROTC.

All who spoke at the ceremony addressed the need to remember these children and those who are still living so that these violent acts will stop. The ceremony prompted community action to prevent further violence.

The Rev. Sharon Holby of the Christian Temple United Church of Christ in Norfolk, was one of the first to speak.

"To mothers, ministers and all who are gathered here, this is an important matter our community must address. The death of a child brings pain, a very real pain that

sears deep into our innermost being, cuts our heart into pieces. No matter what anyone says the pain is real and lasts a lifetime," she said. "But this is not a time to be sad. We must recognize that this negative can turn into a positive."

Holly reminded the audience of the proverb that it takes an entire village to raise a child. She called on people to volunteer their time and service to children.

"It is not enough to build a recreation center," she said. "We must mold and build these children, expand their minds, and teach them to love themselves so much so that they won't take another life or put needles in their own veins."

"Why the wall?" asked Dennis Toler, a Rosewood family service counselor and coordinator of the project. "Because nobody ever plans for the death of a child. The last thing people want is to have to come see me. But if they do, I want to be there to help."

He emphasized Rosewood's desire to give back to the community.

"It is an opportunity to reach back to the community and say we're here and we're here for families."

The idea behind the wall is that not everyone has a chance to heal.

Some people don't have the money to buy tombstones for their children. Others may be from out of town and unable to visit their children. But everyone who has lost a child to violence, whether that child's name is on the wall, can use it to pray and to heal.

"I thank God, Mr. Kellum and Mr. Toler for making my vision come true," said McDonald.

The memorial itself will hold bronze plaques with the names of homicide victims ages 18 and under, according to Toler. The names will be submitted through MAC and Christ Cathedral Church and will include those killed after

Jan. 1, 1997.

The cemetery will put the names on the wall at no cost. However, they must be submitted through MAC so that the number of children slain in the future may somehow be controlled.

LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia will be held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Building, Municipal Center, Princess Anne Station, Virginia Beach, Virginia, on Tuesday, March 11, 1997 at 6:30 p.m., at which time the following applications will be heard:

1. Application of Alice Rose Vaughan for an enlargement of a nonconforming use on property

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Vetshouse gets hand from Navy helpers

"We're just a little command at the back of the base. Hardly anyone knows we're there."

These were the words of Brian Canual, Commander Undersea Surveillance, Dam Neck.

"This command might be small but it sure is mighty!" said Charlotte Holtry, executive director of Vetshouse, as she watched volunteers from the Chiefs' and First Class Communities recently.

These men and women took on the job of landscaping one of three homes that house, feed and rehabilitate homeless veterans in the Virginia Beach area.

Both organizations are trying to get the word out so the Hampton Roads community will know how much work and cooperation there is when it

comes to taking care of its homeless citizens, said Holtry.

Commander Undersea Surveillance, headed up by Capt. Randall Wagner and Executive Officer Capt. Mary Mosier, think that Vetshouse is a great idea.

"None of us know when we might be walking in their shoes," said Canual. "We were looking for a good cause and now that we have found Vetshouse we're going to adopt them."

George Gretchen, past vice president of the Vetshouse Board of Directors and supervisor of the work day, said, "I don't know what we'd do without them, we sure can use all the help we can get."

Volunteers may call Holtry at 468-8614.



DOING THEIR PART. Commander Undersea Surveillance from Dam Neck is among the groups lending time and energy to making Vetshouse a success. Volunteers recently painted one of the Vetshouse homes and did yardwork.

Calling All Pet Lovers
Pet Photo Day
4 - Petsmarts

Norfolk - Wed., March 5
Va. Beach - Thurs., March 6
Chesapeake - Fri., March 7
Newport News - Sun., March 9

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Continued From Page 8

All interested parties are invited to attend.
Ruth Hodges Smith, CMC/AEE City Clerk
If you are physically disabled or visually impaired and need assistance at this meeting, please call the CITY CLERK'S OFFICE at 427-4303; Hearing impaired, call TDD only 427-4305 (TDD Telephonic Device for the Deaf).

8-02
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Public Notice

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SS: IN THE ALLEN
SUPERIOR COURT
CAUSE NO. 02D07-9109-JP-671

WILLIAM D. LANTZ, Petitioner, vs. ROBERTA L. LEFERVA Respondent.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Notice is hereby given that William D. Lantz has filed a Petition To Abate Child Support and Set Specific Visitation in the Allen County Superior Court in Cause No. 02D07-9109-JP-671. This notice is directed to Roberta L. LeFerva whose last known address is 200 Iroquois Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23462. You are hereby ordered to appear on the ninth (9th) day of April, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. to hear and present evidence on the above-referenced petition. Failure to appear could result in adverse rulings entered against you.

James C Yankovsky, #18468-49
GLASER & EBBS
116 E. Berry St., Suite 610
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
(219) 424-0954
ATTORNEY FOR
PETITIONER

8-4
31-37

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING

The Virginia Beach Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 12, 1997 at 12:00 Noon in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Building, Princess Anne, Virginia. A briefing session will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the City Manager's Conference Room, City Hall Building. PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION IS NOT A FINAL DETERMINATION OF THE APPLICATION, BUT ONLY A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL AS THE VIEWPOINT OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION. FINAL DETERMINATION OF THE APPLICATION IS TO BE MADE BY THE CITY COUNCIL. AT A LATER DATE, AFTER A PUBLIC NOTICE IN A NEWSPAPER HAVING GENERAL CIRCULATION WITHIN THE CITY.

THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE PUBLIC HEARING SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT, FOR REASONS THE PLANNING COMMISSION DEEMS APPROPRIATE, CERTAIN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA MAY BE HEARD OUT OF ORDER AND THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE ASSUMED THAT THE ORDER LISTED BELOW WILL BE EXACTLY FOLLOWED DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING.

The staff reviews of some or all of the items on this agenda suggest that certain conditions be attached to approval by City Council. However, it should not be assumed that those conditions constitute all the conditions that will ultimately be attached to the project. Staff agencies may impose further conditions and requirements during administration of applicable city ordinances.

SUBDIVISION VARIANCE:

1. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance, Subdivision for Miles B. Leon. Property is located on Watersedge Road on Parcel 7, Parkview Manor, Lynnhaven Borough.

2. An Ordinance upon Application of W&T Wireless PCS, Inc., Agent for W&T Wireless PCS, Inc. for a Conditional Use Permit for a communication tower on Lots 49 and 50, Shelton Place. Said parcel is located at 1707 Lawson Road and contains 25,957 square feet. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

CHANGE OF ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

3. An Ordinance upon Application of 3 Mac Associates, L.C., for a Change of Zoning District

Classification from AG1 and AG2 Agricultural Districts, R-20 Residential District and R-10 Residential District to Conditional R-10 Residential District on certain property located on the west side of Princess Anne Road beginning at a point 100 feet more or less south of Three Oaks Drive. The proposed zoning classification change to conditional R-10 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 10,000 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban low density residential land use at densities that are compatible with single-family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 12,007 acres. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

4. An Ordinance upon Application of Paul D. Rowan for a Change of Zoning District Classification from I-1 Light Industrial District to AG2 Agricultural District on the west side of S. Birdneck Road beginning at a point 840 feet north of Bells Road. The proposed zoning classification change to AG2 is for agricultural land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for industrial use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 15 acres more or less. LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

5. An Ordinance upon Application of Paul D. Rowan for a Conditional Use Permit for a veterinary hospital and boarding of horses on the west side of S. Birdneck Road, 840 feet north of Bells Road. Said parcel contains 15 acres more or less. LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH.

6. An Ordinance upon Application of Vencor, Inc., for a Conditional Use Permit for a nursing home expansion at the northeast corner of Bonney Road and S. Budding Avenue. Said parcel is located at 4142 Bonney Road and contains 5 acres. KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH.

7. Application of C. David Whitley for the discontinuance, closure and abandonment of a portion of Christine Drive located at the eastern boundary of the Norfolk Southern RR at the intersection with Secotan Rd. Said parcel is variable in width and contains 818.20 square feet. LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH.

DEFERRED BY PLANNING COMMISSION ON 10/9/96:

8. An Ordinance upon Application of Zimmer Development Co. of Virginia, L.P., for a Change of Zoning District Classification from R-7.5 Residential District and B-2 Community Business District to Conditional B-1 Neighborhood Business District on certain property located at the northwest corner of Princess Anne Road and S. Parliament Drive. The proposed zoning classification change to B-1 is for commercial land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for single family residential at densities that are compatible with single family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 1.6 acres. KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH.

DEFERRED BY PLANNING COMMISSION ON 1/8/97:

9. An Ordinance upon Application of Sarah J. Corey for a Conditional Use Permit for a home occupation (bakery) on the east side of Baker Road beginning at a point 140.73 feet south of Lawson Hall Road. Said parcel is located at 1028 Baker Road and contains 14,850 square feet. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

DEFERRED BY PLANNING COMMISSION ON 12-11-96:

10. An Ordinance upon Application of Contractors Paving Company, Inc. for a Change of Zoning District Classification from O-1 Office District to Conditional I-2 Heavy Industrial District on property located between Avenue E and Rodriguez Drive beginning at a point 300 feet more or less south of Bonney Road and running in a southerly direction to the northern boundary of the Virginia Beach-Norfolk Expressway. The proposed zoning classification change to Conditional I-2 is for heavy industrial land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for office use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 9.02 acres. LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH.

11. Application of Econo Lube-N-Tune, Inc. for the modification of conditions placed on the application for a change of zoning district classification from O-2 Office District to Conditional B-2 Community Business District on May 26, 1992. Property is located

at 1324 Kempsville Road. KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH.

12. An Ordinance upon Application of Econo Lube-N-Tune, Inc. for a Conditional Use Permit for an automotive repair establishment on the east side of Kempsville Road, 450 feet more or less north of Indian River Road. Said parcel is located at 1324 Kempsville Road and contains 17,859.6 square feet. KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH.

13. An Ordinance upon Application of Recardo Lewis, New Direction Development Co., L.L.C. for a Change of Zoning District Classification from AG-1 & AG-2 Agricultural District to R-10 Residential on certain property located on the north side of Painters Lane beginning at a point 300 feet more or less west of Townfield Lane. The proposed zoning classification change to R-10 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 10,000 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban low density residential at densities that are compatible with single family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 45 acres. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

14. An Ordinance upon Application of Exxon Corporation for a Conditional Use Permit for an automobile service station in conjunction with a convenience store with fast food and a carwash at the southeast corner of Virginia Beach Boulevard and Independence Boulevard. Said parcel is located at 4600 Virginia Beach Boulevard and contains 35,632 square feet. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

15. An Ordinance upon Application of Exxon Corporation for a Conditional Use Permit for an automobile service station in conjunction with a convenience store with fast food and a carwash at the southeast corner of Virginia Beach Boulevard and Rosemont Road. Said parcel is located at 3653 Virginia Beach Boulevard and contains 1.624 acres. LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH.

16. An Ordinance upon Application of Gray Lumber Co., a VA Corporation, Grayland Company, L.P., NationsBank, N.A., and Elmon T. Gray for a Change of Zoning District Classification from O-2 Office District to Conditional H-1 Hotel District on the south side of Cleveland Street, 743 feet for more less east of Newtown Road. The proposed zoning classification change to H-1 is for hotel land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for business/research center use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 2.44 acres. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

17. An Ordinance upon Application of Brian J. and Stefany Dolmat for a Change of Zoning District Classification from R-5D Residential Duplex District to Conditional O-1 Office District at the southwest corner of Virginia Beach Boulevard and Thalia Road. The proposed zoning classification change to O-1 is for office land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban high density residential at densities that are compatible with single family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel is located at 221 Thalia Road and contains 16,200 square feet. KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH.

18. An Ordinance upon Application of R.S. Dixon & Co., for a Change of Zoning District Classification from A-12 Apartment District to RT-3 Resort Tourist District on property located at the southwest intersection of 30th Street and Arctic Avenue. The proposed zoning classification change to RT-3 is for resort/tourist land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban high density residential at densities that are compatible with single family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 32,328 square feet. VIRGINIA BEACH BOROUGH.

AMENDMENT

19. Motion of the City of Virginia Beach to amend Sections 111, 207, 232, 301, 401, 501, 601, 701, 801, 901, 1001 and 1305 of the City Zoning Ordinance pertaining to communication towers and antennas.

20. Motion of the City of Virginia Beach to amend and reordain Section 111 of the City Zoning Ordinance pertaining to definition of a lodging unit.
All interested parties are invited to attend.
Robert J. Scott

Planning Director

If you are physically disabled or visually impaired and need assistance at this meeting, please call the CITY CLERK'S OFFICE at 427-4303.

Hearing impaired, call: TDD only at 427-4305. (TDD Telephonic Device for the Deaf).

8-03
21-28

Public Notice

VIRGINIA: IN THE VIRGINIA BEACH CIRCUIT COURT
CLERKS OFFICE IN RE:
BRENDA I. CANDELARIO LANDIN
Plaintiff(s)
V. FERDINAND LANDIN Defendant(s)

ORDER OF PUBLICATION - CASE NO. 96-2397

The object of this suit is (for) divorce a vinculo matrimonii. It is ORDERED that Ferdinand Landin appear and protect his interest, on or before March 3rd, 1997, which date is no sooner than fifty days after entry of this order of publication.

And it is further ORDERED that this order of publication be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Virginia Beach Sun, a newspaper of general circulation in this City prescribed by this court.

Feb. 7, 1997
DATE
J. CURTIS FRUIT, CLERK
By Bill Mault
Deputy Clerk

8-01
41-3-14

Public Notice

VIRGINIA: IN THE VIRGINIA BEACH CIRCUIT COURT
CLERKS OFFICE IN RE:
WILLIAM EDWARD CHILDRESS
Plaintiff
V. SANDRA COCHRAN CHILDRESS Defendant

ORDER OF PUBLICATION - CASE NO. CH97-288

The object of this suit is for the said plaintiff, William Edward Childress, to obtain a divorce a vinculo matrimonii from the defendant, Sandra Cochran Childress, upon the grounds of one (1) year's separation pursuant to Section 20-19(9) of the code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

It is ORDERED that Sandra Cochran Childress appear and protect her interest, on or before March 26th, 1997, which date is no sooner than fifty days after entry of this order of publication.

And it is further ORDERED that this order of publication be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Virginia Beach Sun, a newspaper of general circulation in this City prescribed by this court.

January 31, 1997
DATE
J. CURTIS FRUIT, CLERK
By Bill Mault
Deputy Clerk

6-15
41-2-28

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia will be held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Building, Municipal Center, Princess Anne Station, Virginia Beach, Virginia, on Tuesday, February 25, 1997 at 6:30 p.m., at which time the following applications will be heard:

SUBDIVISION VARIANCE:

LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH

1. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance, Subdivision for Steve Frazier & Dr. Fitzhugh Mayo. Property is located on the west side of S. Woodside Lane, south of Keelingwood Court.

LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH

KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH

2. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance for Naginder S. & Sharanjit K. Dhillon. Property is located at 3542 Glen Arden Road.

KEMPSVILLE BOROUGH

STREET CLOSURE:

BAYSIDE BOROUGH

3. Application of C & C Development, L.L.C. for the discontinuance, closure and abandonment of a portion of Pleasure House Road located on the east side of Pleasure House Road beginning at a point 123.17 feet south of Andrew Jackson Lane, running a distance of 50.42 feet along the east side of

Pleasure House Road, running around a curve a distance of 19.81 feet, running a distance of 66.13 feet along the eastern property line and running a distance of 17.37 feet along the northern property line. Said parcel is variable in width and contains 836 square feet. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH

4. Application of The Runnymede Corporation for the discontinuance, closure and abandonment of the following streets:

Pine Street: Beginning at the northern boundary of Fourth Street and running in a northerly direction a distance of 499.40 feet. Said parcel is 66.02 feet in width.

Third Street: Beginning at the northeastern intersection of Pine Street and Third Street and running in an easterly direction a distance of 412.84 feet. Said parcel is 50.02 feet in width.

Poplar Street: Beginning at the northern boundary of Fourth Street and running in a northerly direction a distance of 499.40 feet. Said parcel is 66 feet in width.

LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH

CHANGE OF ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION:

LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH

5. An ordinance upon Application of Martin L., Jr., and Margaret W. Cornick for a Change of Zoning District Classification on the following parcels:

Parcel 1: From R-7.5 Residential District to B-2 Community Business District on certain property located at the southwest corner of Third Street and Pine Street.

Parcel 2: From B-2 Community Business District to R-7.5 Residential District on certain property located at the southeast corner of Fourth Street and Pine Street.

The proposed zoning classification change to B-2 is for commercial land use. The proposed zoning classification change to R-7.5 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 7,500 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of these parcels for business/research center use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 6.107 acres. LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT:

LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH

6. An ordinance upon Application of Drivers Mart of Virginia, L.L.C., for a Conditional Use Permit for motor vehicle sales, rental and repair on certain property located on the west side of Rosemont Road beginning at point 400 feet more or less north of South Boulevard. Said parcel contains 14 acres more or less. LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH.

7. An ordinance upon Application of Mother Seton House, Inc., T/A Seton House for a Conditional Use Permit for a group home on certain property located at the southeast corner of N. Lynnhaven Road and Edinburgh Drive. Said parcel contains 9.16 acres. LYNNAHVEN BOROUGH.

8. Motion of the City of Virginia Beach to amend and reordain Section 111 of the City Zoning Ordinance pertaining to definition of a lodging unit.

All interested parties are invited to attend.

Ruth Hodges Smith, CMC/AEE City Clerk

If you are physically disabled or visually impaired and need assistance at this meeting, please call the CITY CLERK'S OFFICE at 427-4303; Hearing impaired, call TDD only 427-4305 (TDD Telephonic Device for the Deaf).

6-01
21-21

Public Notice

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Beach Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Commonwealth of Virginia, in re: Roger Allen Golson; Rayla Annette Young; Dana Raye Young

The object of this suit is to: Obtain the entry of an Order of custody for Roger Allen Golson, born May 9, 1982 Rayla Annette Young, born March 12, 1984, and Dana Raye Young, born May 11, 1991 to be awarded to Roger Alan Young.

It is ORDERED that the Defendant DONNA RAYE YOUNG, appear at the above-named Court and 3-6-97 at 11:00 A.M.

Frederick C. Jenks, III, Clerk of Court

1-24-97
BY: V.M. Barnard
Deputy Clerk

5-03
41-2-21

Public Notice

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
FORSYTH COUNTY
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE

DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
94-1219

IN THE MATTER OF:
Solomon Jenerett
DOB: 8-27-79

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

TO: LYNDA JENERETT, mother of the above referenced juvenile.

TAKE NOTICE that a Juvenile Petition seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is an adjudication of Dependency with respect to the above-referenced juvenile pursuant to N.C.G.S. 7A-517(13).

You are required to make a defense to the Juvenile Petitions within thirty (30) days after the date of this notice; and upon your failure to make a defense to the juvenile Petition within the 30 day period specified herein or to attend the hearing on or after the date of this notice, the petitioner will apply to the Court for an Adjudication of Dependency with respect to the above-referenced juvenile.

The hearing on the Juvenile Petition is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 13, 1997 in Courtroom 4-J of the Hall of Justice in Winston-Salem, North Carolina or as soon thereafter as the Court can hear the said case.

This the 7th day of February, 1997.

Theresa A. Boucher
Attorney for the Forsyth County Department of Social Services
P.O. Box 999
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101
(910) 727-8305

6-14
31-2-21

CITY LINE ROAD

City of Virginia Beach

City of Chesapeake

Citizen Information/Participation Meeting

Meeting:

Wednesday, February 26, 1997 • Anytime between 4:00pm and 8:00pm
To be held in the Centerville Elementary School located at 2201 Centerville Turnpike in the City of Virginia Beach.

Purpose:

To provide interested citizens an opportunity to informally review and discuss, with Department personnel, the feasibility study information for proposed City Line Road under consideration between Indian River Road and Elbow Road in the City of Virginia Beach and Providence Road and Military Highway in the City of Chesapeake.

Comments:

Written comments and other exhibits relative to the feasibility study may be submitted at the meeting or sent to the Department at any time within 10 days after the meeting.

Special Assistance:

If you require additional information or special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting please contact:

Norfolk Residency: 1-888-723-8401 (toll free)

Virginia Department of Transportation

Device for the Hearing Impaired (TTY): 1-800-307-4630

Project: U000-134-V40-PE-101 • Federal Project: STP-5403 (403)



CLASSIFIEDS

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TO PLACE YOUR AD IN
THE CLASSIFIEDS
547-4571

CLASSIFIED AD MAIL-IN FORM

PERSONAL RATES	20 Words or less	Additional words
1 time	\$ 7.50	.35
2 times	\$ 13.50	.70
4 times	\$ 22.50	1.40

Run your Classified Ad four times for only \$22.50. You can cancel your ad at any time.

All Classified Ads run in three newspapers (The Virginia Beach Sun, The Chesapeake Post and The Portsmouth Times). No additional charge.

Please print clearly using only one word per box.

Run my ad for _____ issues.

Payment is enclosed \$_____

Make check payable to **Beverly Publications**

MAIL TO: Classified, Box 1327, Chesapeake, Va. 23327

Name _____
Address _____
City _____

FOR HELP with your Classified Ad, please call 547-4571.

COMBINATION RATE: Run the same personal ad in any other Beverly Publications newspaper for an additional \$3 one time, \$5 two times, \$7 four times. Newspapers in Franklin, Emporia, Lawrenceville, Dividville and Petersburg. Call 547-4571 for details.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROYAL ATLANTIC MUSICAL SERVICES- Music for any occasion. Preferences, promotional materials available. Jazz, Rock, Country, Oldies, Dividville. David Jacobson 548-1873. 3/14

DOSWELL VA FEB 22-23 GUN SHOW

VIRGINIA SPORTS ARENA
500 tables
Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4
Admission \$5.00
Under 12 free w/ adult

BUY • SELL • TRADE

Exit 95 off I-95 to 30 east, turn left at 2nd stop light (between burger King and 7-11). We're across from Kings Dominion.

GUNS, KNIVES, MILITARIA.
Info: (540) 238-1343
Old Dominion Shows 2/21

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARGARET WINDLEY!
From all of us.

Guide to home employment. RUSH \$5.00 and SASE to Ann Marie 26036 Cox Rd., Petersburg, Va. 23803. 2/28

CREDIT CARD FRAUD SCARE YOU? Get the facts to protect yourself! Rush 10 cash/ck/mo to: Fraud watch, Dept. 100. P.O. Box 337, Ovilve, Va. 23129-0337. 2/21
Join an almost-beginners Spanish conversation group, call Churchland Library: 686-2538. Meeting dates and times to be determined by group.

BRAIDS BY PAMELA J. Free consultation. Ask about our winter special. Call 463-2573. 2/21

WEDDING RECEPTIONS parties, reunions and special events at Hickory Run Club • 260 person capacity, kitchen facilities, stage, Contact Tom Holms before 5pm at 421-7677 2/23

APARTMENTS/RENT
Clean, Furnished Apartment-LR, 1br, carpet, tile BA, Kitchen, gas heat, no pets, \$310/mo. No utilities furnished. Call 484-3381. 2/28

SENIOR CITIZENS DISCOUNT on remodeled 1-2 bedroom. Call 425-7575. 2/28

1-2-3 BEDROOM APARTMENTS & HOUSES Close to bases. Furnished or unfurnished. \$200-\$500 monthly. 6 month lease required. Call 588-8164 or 480-2133. 3/7

ARTICLES FOR SALE
DESCRAMBLERS- Clear scrambled stations for cable T.V. 1-800-400-6456. 2/14

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES AUCTION. Every Thursday 7pm. Hardtimz & Sunshine 463-7335. 244 London Bridge Shopping Ctr. 2/28

AUTOS FOR SALE
89 Ford Escort, 4d, Hb back, automatic w/AC, 10m fms, blue, good condition. \$2500 call 631-1903. 3/14

Honda 88 Accord LX all power, excellent condition, 4 door AC, automatic, \$4,500, burgundy. Call Kim, beeper 307-4097. 2/28

AUTOS FOR SALE

1987 Mac Mainliner truck 18ft van body. Good running condition, power lift tailgate. 1986 Buick Station Wagon, \$2,500. Call 757-857-7942. 2/28

1984 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme. Runs. (Parts car). New radiator, 2 new tires, new water pump. \$500 OBO. Call 757-242-3807. 2/21

BUILDING MATERIALS

Good used shelving boards 1x12 in, 12 feet long. No nail holes. \$1.00 per lin.foot. Please call 757-857-7942. 2/28

HUGE savings on selected models of new arch-type steel buildings. 25x42, 30x40. Great backyard shop-2 car garages. Easy financing available. Call immediately 1-800-341-4044. 2/21

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

CASH FOR FITNESS
Have you ever dreamed of having your own step aerobic class? It's easier than you think. Send \$9.95 for all the information. Peggy Zizak 11978 Shady ave. Connetquot Lake, PA 16316. 2/28

OWN YOUR OWN APPAREL OR SHOE STORE, CHOOSE: JEAN/SPORTSWEAR, BRIDAL, LINGERIE, WESTERNWEAR, LADIES, MEN'S, LARGE SIZES, INFANT/PRETEEN, PETITE DANCEWEAR/AEROBIC, MATERNITY, OR ACCESSORIES STORE. OVER 2000 NAME BRANDS. \$26,900 TO \$38,900. INVENTORY, TRAINING, FIXTURES, GRAND OPENING, ETC. CAN OPEN 15 DAYS. MR. LOUGHLIN (612) 888-6555. 2/21

Coffee & Tea Distributor-National Company. \$105K potential part time/full time. Finance 1-800-899-4503. 2/21

***** AAA Greeting Cards ***** Earn \$45K part time or \$110K full time servicing local stores. No selling, accounts provided. Your \$9950 investment secured by inventory. *** 800-771-3141 *** 2/21
START A HOME BUSINESS TODAY. 10 best opportunities for details send S.A.S.E to Did-hole 1304 Oakmont Place, Norfolk, VA. 23513.

CASH PAID WEEKLY- Earn \$2.00 for each envelope you stuff. Free details. Send S.A.S.E to United Distributors 4409 North 16th Street, Phoenix, AZ. 85016. 3/7

THORNTON ENTERPRISES- expanding to areal Weight loss, nutrition & exercise programs! **OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME!** Call recorded hotline 1-800-705-9035. FOR FREE SAMPLES! Call Rick 919-690-1091. 2/21

CLASSES/SCHOOLS

BARMISTERS OF VA BEACH Bartending school
1141 Independence Blvd. 1-2 wks day / evening classes Job placement assistance. Lowest tuition in area. For Free Class / 464-0500. 3/7

NEAR OCEAN FRONT- 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath, washer & dryer on premises. \$ 500 per month & \$200 down. Call 495-0135, pager 629-3075. 2/28

CONDOS/ RENT
Near Ocean Front- 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath, washer & dryer on premises. \$ 500 per month & \$200 down. Call 495-0135, pager 629-3075. 2/28

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Near Ocean Front- 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath, washer & dryer on premises. \$ 500 per month & \$200 down. Call 495-0135, pager 629-3075. 2/28

FARMS/LANDS

LAND WANTED!
American Timberland Company will pay top dollar for your land. Looking for tracks of open wooded or cut over land from 50 to 5,000 acres. Call 804-949-7017. ttn

VIRGINIA LAND SALES

Over 1000 AC. through out VA 2-77 AC. parcels. Starting at \$19,900 Waterfront/ road front. If you are looking for land, whether it's to get out of the city, to build a vacation home, or investment, we've got it! Owner financing 10% down Call 757-804-949-0099. ttn

FINANCIAL

BAD CREDIT? Need help cleaning up your credit? For info, send large S.A.S.E. + \$1.00 postage & handling to S&K Financial Co. P.O. Box 9183, Chesapeake, VA. 23321. 3/7

ATN HOMEOWNERS- Stop foreclosure & save your home regardless of your current situation we can help! Call Robert any time 1-800-635-2398. 2/21

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

LOOSE THAT BODY FAT- 100% natural & doctor recommended! \$30 for 30 days, money back guaranteed! Fat to Energy! Ask about Free B's. Call Lori 757-888-3217. ttn

HELP WANTED

"AVON"
Great way to earn money. Call 1-800-824-8969, for your starter kit. Avon Independent Sales Representative. 2/21

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Council delays decision

□ Continued From Page 1

Although that money would be earmarked for capital projects only, councilwoman Barbara Henley said that this policy would hamstring the city. The city should have the flexibility of the additional funds to make up for years when there is a shortfall of revenues, she said.

The school board also would like the base for estimating the school's portion of the budget to be the entire revenues of the city, not a selected number. Block said that if this were done the percentage would be lowered without a change in the total amount of money available.

Another element of the policy to which the school board has objected is the requirement that the school board go directly to the taxpayers for a referendum on a tax increase to pay for additional needs.

Strayhorn said she was concerned about the reluctance of the board to ask for a tax increase. She said that she was looking for a better way to have a good relationship with the school board. She said she would have a problem supporting anything if that part were taken out.

Jones said that he was concerned about giving the school board part of the general fund surplus.

"If I were sitting on the school board," he said, "and had that provision, I might be under pressure to put more in operations and wait for the end of the year and use the balance for capital expenditures."

The result, he said, is that the board would be spending more money than was budgeted to spend. "We're not really giving them a budget."

Then, if the excess money doesn't come in, "we have a serious problem; we won't have money for schools."

Harrison agreed that it was a "mistake to have a policy that ties our hands in the use of excess funds."

The school board's rationale is, Spore said, that "logically, if you're going to share, they should get their share."

At the formal session, Jones said that he would rather know what the whole policy is before voting on a resolution.

Harrison said that approving the interim resolution was like saying "we're working on the rest."

Melody Copper, president of the Virginia Beach Education Association, said that the VBEA has a concern about the final percentage for the funding formula and wants to be sure the percentage will generate sufficient revenue in future years, especially if there is a decline in state or federal funding.

The city policy would turn over a percentage of the selected general fund revenues to the school system and leave it up to the school system to take the ball from there. The intent is to avoid the confrontations, bickering and bargaining that has gone on for years over the budget. The city said, however, that future adjustments can be made in the policy.

Copper said that the VBEA supports the school system's request to share actual revenue, not estimated revenue. When times are good, she said, the schools need to share in the increased revenue streams and when times are hard, they need to tighten their belt just like the city has to.

Block, in a review of the

policy, said that the policy is an ad hoc limitation of restriction on what can be requested; it is not a reduction in school funding; it is not about whether or not there is enough money; it is not a retreat from the city's commitment to children; it is not a panacea, and it is not a reduction in council flexibility.

He said that the city recognizes changing conditions, "is concerned with revenues, is being up front, is accountable to taxpayers, is sharing available estimated revenues, and will have a periodic review of the formula and will protect education and city services."

The staff suggested the interim resolution to defer the full policy and to provide separate guidance to the school board to prepare its 1997-98 budget.

Of the continued negotiations between the city and the schools, Councilman Harold Heischberger said that some of these things are negotiable and some are not.

Harrison said that the resolution on the revenue sharing resolution has been delayed time and time again, and the city has been talking about it since the fall of '96.

"I want to eliminate an argument during the budget process."

Henley said that the policy was needed this year because next year is an election year. If the city doesn't approve the interim directions, Henley said, the school board may come up with a totally different policy. "I'm not so hard-headed to say it has to be this policy or nothing, but we want it to be understood that there are basic principles."

After the vote, Oberdorf said that it was "not the intent of any member of city council to do anything to harm education."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Arts

The Old Coast Guard Station will present "turn-of-the-century troubadour" Bob Zentz with a musical program, "Singing Sailors: Instruments of the Sea," on Sunday, March 2 at 1:30 p.m. in Price Auditorium at the Virginia Center for Contemporary Art.

Admission is \$2.50 for Old Coast Guard Station members, \$4 for non members and \$1.50 for all children under 21 years of age.

Acclaimed soprano Emily Stauch Labidi will appear as guest soloist with the Virginia Beach Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of David S. Kunkel, for a performance of Mozart's "Gloria," which will include a choral accompaniment by the Virginia Beach Public School chorus.

The concert, which is the orchestra's third concert of its 15th anniversary season, will be held at the Pavilion Theatre in Virginia Beach on Sunday, Feb. 23 at 3 p.m.

Concert tickets, which can be obtained from the box office, are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens.

For further information, call 671-8611.

First Colonial Theatre Ensemble will present "Inherit the Wind" Feb. 20 - 22 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 3 p.m. All performances will be given at the Patriot Playhouse, located at First Colonial High School, 1272 Mill Dam Rd.

Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students and senior citizens. No tickets are required for children 6 and under. For more information, call the school at 496-6711 or 496-6858, ext. 3126.

Clubs

Princess Anne Plaza Garden Club will hold its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Plaza United Methodist Church, 208 S. Plaza Trail. A program on "Arizona: Biosphere and Desert" will be presented by Roberta Grater. For more information, call 463-2288.

The Virginia Beach Jaycees will hold their monthly program meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 25 at Holland Commerce Center, 486 S. Independence Blvd., Suite A-104. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. guests are welcome to attend. The Jaycees are a leadership training organization through community service for young people age 21 through 39.

Pickett-Buchanan Chapter United Daughters of the Confederacy will meet at 11 a.m. on March 20 at Cypress Point Country Club, 5340 Club Head Rd. in Virginia Beach. For information and reservations, call 489-8340.

The Tidewater Men of Integrity are sponsoring a fellowship for men on Saturday, Feb. 22 at Thalia Lynn Baptist Church from 7:30 - 9 a.m. The church is located at 4392 Virginia Beach Blvd. in Virginia Beach. Call the church at 499-0557 for directions. All men regardless of race, creed, color, denomination or nationality are invited to attend. Contact Dale Wyatt at 465-0040 or Robert Lee at 487-9171 for more information.

The Association of Former SACLANT Officers will gather for dinner at Norfolk's Harbor Club on Friday, March 7 at 6 p.m. The association supports the goals and objectives of NATO and keeps apprised of NATO policy and operations through periodic briefings by the SACLANT staff. The association also promotes camaraderie among those officers who formerly served in NATO commands. For dinner or membership information, call 460-0975.

Civic

The Resort Beach Civic League meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. at W. T. Cooke Elementary School. Don Maxwell, director of Economic Development for Virginia Beach, will be presenting "A View to the Future." Other community concerns will be presented by councilman Linwood Branch.

Education

Brandon Middle School's Black Culture Club is in search of Brandon Junior High School Team members of 1986-91 for a 10-year reunion set show on March 22 from 1 - 4 p.m. Contact Mrs. Seymore at Brandon Middle School, 1700 Pope St., Virginia Beach, Va., 23464.

There will be an organizational meeting to plan Bayside High School's Class of '87 10-year reunion Tuesday, March 4 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Basement Conference Room of the Virginia Beach Judicial Center Court Support Building (Building 10B). For more information or directions, contact Rich Garriott at 427-4207 or fax him at 426-5860.

Health

In celebration of National Heart Month there will be a free blood pressure screening at Kempville Area Library (832 Kempville Rd.) on Saturday, Feb. 22 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. This screening will be presented by registered nurse Charlene Lechner, coordinator of the Comprehensive Health Promotion Program of the Virginia Beach Health Department. Walk-ins are welcome.

Recreation

The Windsor Woods Area Library (3612 South Plaza Trail) will present a Preschoolers' Storytime promoting the nurturing and enhancing of picture-book sharing. This program will take place on Wednesdays, March 5, 12, 19 and 26 from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Registration began Feb. 18 and participation is limited to 25. Call 340-1043 to register.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Eating right can be fun

Perhaps one of the most positive social developments of the '90s is a renewed emphasis on "family values."

More couples are sharing parenting responsibilities and determined to develop greater parenting skills, including providing sound nutrition from the earliest years.

But parents won't always be nearby to ensure their children eat properly, so involving children at an early age in their own nutrition can establish healthy eating habits that last a lifetime.

Luckily, learning to "eat right" can be fun for children and parents. Try these simple steps:

■ If family schedules allow, try to have at least one meal a day that everyone has a hand in preparing, even if it's getting lunches ready for the next day. Children can learn about the four basic food groups and the variety of ways in which they can be prepared.

■ Every Wednesday doesn't have to be "meatloaf night." Children exposed to a variety of flavors will become adults who favor a varied diet.

■ Treat healthy foods such as spinach, pears, fish, whole-grain breads and yogurt as treats, not a "should-eats." Youthful eating habits will carry over into adulthood.

Students dig in to challenge

□ Continued From Page 1

complete by June. If not, it will get finished in the fall.

The mentor explained that this is true hands-on work experience that will help the students decide if this is a trade they would like to turn into a lifetime career.

"The students run the crews," said Pawlowski. "In fact, the students are harder on their crews than I would be. The students are harder on themselves."

As a result, the class is not all fun and games, he noted. It is real work. Whether the teens are prepared for that when they sign up for the course depends on the student.

"It runs the gamut from the student that is very enthusiastic and wants to get involved — boys and girls," he said.

"But there are also the students who want three easy credits and they find out that it's really hard work and they fall out. That's a minority, though. The majority of people put their time into it."

Pawlowski said that the dedication can certainly pay off.

"If a kid stays in this program, we can get them in the

apprenticeships where they can be making from \$6 to \$7 per hour," he noted.

From there, he said, they can work their way up the ladder because everything they learn includes the correct, fundamental skills required.

"You look at this house and you say, 'Kids are building this. Do you really want to live in this house?'" Pawlowski grinned. "Sure, there are things that need to be touched up. But you can put this house against any other house on the market and it will measure up. These are professional young men and women."

One of those young men working on the project is Durwood Miller, a masonry student.

"It's been fun — the experience you get from it — I'm enjoying it," he noted. Miller thinks of it as good experience for the future, because he has an avid interest in bricklaying.

"I'm putting in rebar and dug footers and smoothed them out so we can get them inspected," he said.

The next step will be to pour the foundation.

David McWhorter, a plumbing student, said getting out of the classroom is nice because hands-on learning is the best part of the project.

"It gives us real life work experience," McWhorter explained. "It shows us what employers are expecting of us."

As the ceremony speakers noted, these teens are the professionals of tomorrow.

"This project is part of our efforts to help students meet the demands of the workplace," said Steven J. Harwood, foundation president.

"The mission is made easier by students and their enthusiasm on this site, they're ready, willing and able to meet these requirements."

The superintendent of schools noted that the students are not the only beneficiaries of the public-private effort.

"This project is a benefit to the entire community," Jenney said. "What we call a win-win situation. They have hands-on experience and increase chances for scholarships and for mentoring opportunities. And those who purchase this home will have an opportunity to live and grow in this community."

Va. Beach woman opens exhibit

A master's thesis exhibition entitled "A Sense of Nature: Fragmentation and Wholeness" by Norfolk State University and Old Dominion University graduate student Cynthia Stelly will be on exhibit at the Arts Center of the Portsmouth Museums from Tuesday, Feb. 25 through Sunday, March 9.

An opening reception for Stelly's exhibit will also be held on Sunday, Feb. 23 from 2 - 4 p.m.

"A Sense of Nature: Fragmentation and Wholeness" features approximately 20 of

Stelly's recent works. She works largely in acrylic and tries to capture in painting her initial reaction toward nature.

Stelly said of her work, "I see underlying structures (in nature) which I embellish and give expression to in an individual way."

She is a Portsmouth native who currently resides in Virginia Beach and has worked as a commercial artist, photographer and educator. She has been awarded numerous academic honors and generously shares her expertise with the community

through volunteer work with the Glover School of Music and Creative Arts in Portsmouth, Ocean View community Cultural Center in Norfolk, and with the Girl Scouts of America.

The Arts Center is located on the corner of Court and High streets in Old Towne Portsmouth and is accessible to the disabled. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sunday, 1 - 5 p.m. For further information on exhibits, workshops and lectures, contact Gayle Paul or Cooper Carter at 393-8543 or 393-8983.

health and well-being.

Participating groups include the Virginia Beach Department of Public Health, Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, the SAFE KIDS Coalition of Hampton Roads, Virginia Beach Public Libraries, Sentara Women's Health Source, Family Services of Tidewater, Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Virginia, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Child Abuse Prevention Services, the March

of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation and the Virginia Beach Department of Parks and Recreation.

Activities will include free immunizations (parents are requested to bring their children's shot records), infant car-seat safety checks, infant massage demonstrations, low-cost chair massages for parents, a community mural painting, workshops on making your own baby food, breastfeeding and toddler dental care.

Infant health fair slated

The Virginia Center for Contemporary Art (VCCA) will host an infant health fair on March 1 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. The Center's department of education coordinated the event in conjunction with the exhibition B.A.B.Y., which features works on pregnancy, childbirth, infancy and parenthood.

Many area health agencies are collaborating with VCCA on the project, which will give new and prospective parents important information about their children's

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The Virginia Beach Sun

Friday, February 28, 1997

VIRGINIA BEACH NEWS and VIEWS

69th Year

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Beach tax base up

One of Virginia Beach's goals over the years is to move the percentage of commercial/industrial development closer to 30 percent.

Back Bay refuge slates annual spring cleanup

Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge will hold its Annual Spring Cleanup Saturday, March 8. This event is co-sponsored by the Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club, Virginia Beach Audubon Society, Chesapeake Bay Sierra Club, Sandbridge Civic League, and Back Bay NWR Volunteers. The cleanup is open to all interested participants.

A variety of projects will be available. Projects will include trail maintenance, fence and boardwalk repair and construction, landscaping, and a beach cleanup. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Visitor Contact Station. Work will begin at

approximately 9 a.m. and continue after lunch until 4 p.m. Additional work will be available throughout the afternoon for those volunteers able to stay. Participants should plan to bring a bag lunch. The refuge will provide lemonade and water for work breaks.

Project planning is made easier if the number of participants is known in advance. Individuals should call the Refuge at 721-2412 for advance registration, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. All participants should wear work clothes, sturdy footwear and gloves. The standard entrance fee is waived for participating individuals.

A Colonial woman's work was never done

The old saying "a woman's work is never done" was especially true 200 years ago. Plantation women worked from daylight to dusk doing the various tasks needed to keep the household going. Explore the lives of the plantation women through an interpretive tour entitled "To Be a Colonial Woman" at the Francis Land House Historic Site and Gardens.

Tours will be given at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 9 and repeated at the

same times on Sunday, March 16. Reservations are required. The tour will examine the differing roles of the gentry lady, the middle class woman and the plantation slave.

This special interpretive tour is included in the regular admission price of \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for senior citizens, \$1.50 students (13 and above) and \$1 for children (6 to 12).

For information and reservations, call 431-4000.

Kazoo along with the Virginia Symphony

Bring any instrument (kazoos are welcome) and play Beethoven's "Fifth Symphony" with the Virginia Symphony on Saturday, March 1 from 12:30 - 3 p.m. in Center Court at Virginia Beach's Lynnhaven Mall.

Music Director and Conductor JoAnn Falletta will lead the Symphony Orchestra's performance. Music lovers of all ages are invited to participate or listen. The play-along is free and open to the public. Eric Worklen from 94.9 FM, "The Point," will be the master of ceremonies. Raffle tickets will be sold for

the opportunity to conduct the orchestra at the mall. Three winners will be selected to conduct a "Sousa March." No experience is necessary. The concert will include free door prizes and a chance to meet the Chick-Fil-A mascots, Doodles and Faye.

There will also be performances by the Virginia Symphony Chorus at 11 a.m. at Hecht's South and various groups performing throughout the mall.

For more information on the play-along concert, call 623-8590 ext. 320.

Garden Symposium set for March 6 at Academy

The Ninth Tidewater Garden Symposium will be held on March 6 at The Norfolk Academy, 1585 Wesleyan Dr. in Norfolk, Va. The event is popular and well attended by both amateur and professional gardeners. Each speaker is extremely knowledgeable and will bring a different focus to the absorbing pursuit of gardening.

Speakers this year are Barry Yinger, who brings slides and in depth information on shade gardening in his speech entitled "Embracing Asian Umbrellaphiles"; Jane McNeary, owner and operator of McNeary's plants in Charlotte,

N.C. will speak on "The Cutting Garden"; Dr. J. C. Raulston, who is the founder as well as the director of The North Carolina State University Arboretum in Raleigh, N.C. plans a program entitled "Plants plus Creative Design equals Stunning Landscapes"; Pearl Fryar, a unique topiary artist, who will speak on "The Art of Topiary and Espallier."

The event is sponsored by the Garden Club of Norfolk and the Virginia Beach Garden Club.

For further information, contact Ann Gill, 428-3827, Blair Willis, 423-4752 or Rachel Cottrell, 423-2965.

Applications sought for police officer recruits

Virginia Beach is accepting applications for the position of police officer recruit through March 20. Interested individuals should contact the Human Resources Department, Building 18, Room 106, at the Municipal Center Complex, to obtain application materials

and schedule the required testing.

Applicants who respond to this advertisement will be considered for employment in the September 1997 academy. For additional information regarding qualifications, call BEACH-LINE, ext. 808.

By LEE CAHILL

City Council Reporter

It was good news for city council — the new assessments will mean more revenues.

And for the first time, real estate tax assessor Gerald Banagan told city council at a workshop Tuesday, appreciation is making up a greater percentage of the assessment increase than growth.

The projected assessment increase for fiscal 1997-98 is \$796,984,734 for a 4.4 percent increase. Of that, appreciation will account for 2.6 percent.

More good news:

Banagan said that even though Virginia Beach commercial/industrial construction represents only 28 percent of the total yearly construction, "we have a very large tax base." In fact, he said, "we have more commercial property than Norfolk."

Compare Norfolk's \$9 billion tax base with Virginia Beach's projected almost \$19 billion base. Although Norfolk has a higher percentage of properties in commercial and industrial development, the smaller percentage in Virginia Beach of a vastly greater base produces more

commercial-industrial property.

One of Virginia Beach's goals over the years is to move the percentage of commercial/industrial development closer to 30 percent.

Notices, only to those who will have an assessment change, are being mailed to property owners today (Friday). If you're not among the six percent who will receive a decrease in assessment and 72 percent who will receive an increase, you won't receive a notice.

The projected \$18,982 billion represents a 4.4-percent increase over the current assessment. With each penny of the tax rate relating to \$1,898,000 in revenue, the total revenues at the current tax rate of \$1.22 will be \$231,591,000.

The average assessment change for individual properties is approximately 3.11 percent.

At the present tax rate of \$1.22 the owner of a \$100,000 house, now paying \$1,220 a year in taxes will see an increase of \$36.60 if that house is assessed at three percent more. Half the tax is due Dec. 5 and half on June 5 of 1998.

New construction for the past 12 months amounted to \$298 million, an increase of 35 percent from the previous year, with residential new construction up by 15 percent and commercial/industrial new construction up by 149 percent. Growth in land due to rezonings and subdivision amounted to approximately \$74,166,000.

Assessments in Princess Anne Borough increased the most at 9.2 percent (the total assessment was \$2.8 billion. That's not counting Blackwater, which has the smallest total assessment at \$46,392,037 increasing 9.8 percent.

Big earners were the Lynnhaven Borough with a total assessment of \$6 billion, an increase of 4.3 percent, and Kempville Borough with a total assessment of \$5.4 billion, an increase of 4.1 percent. The Virginia Beach Borough had the smallest increase at 1.6 percent with a total assessment of \$990 million.

Since a low of 6 percent increase in 1993, the percentages have been increasing steadily.

More than half the properties had increases of less than three percent with just six percent increasing more than eight percent.

Fifty-four percent of all residences are assessed at less than \$100,000 while only a 2 percent at over \$350,000.

Taxes exempted for senior citizens and disabled persons through real estate tax exemption/deferral/freeze amounted to \$1,493,170.10 in fiscal 97. This figure has gone up steadily over the years. Over 1850 take advantage of the program.

In addition, 2,560 parcels are tax exempt because of educational religious, government and similar use amounting to a loss of \$3,492,416, 975 in revenues.

Everyone's an art critic?

Educators explore teaching approach

By M.J. KNOBLOCK

Sun Correspondent

The approach to teaching art in school is changing.

Just ask Anne Wolcott, fine arts coordinator for Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

"Most people don't realize art is more than gluing beans to a paper plate," said Wolcott. "We have a whole new comprehensive approach to teaching art."

To help Virginia Beach and Norfolk teachers learn more about the new method of teaching, Wolcott used grant money from the National Art Education Foundation to bring Terry Barrett, a textbook author and Ohio State University art education professor, to the resort city last week.

Barrett, who focuses on art criticisms and contemporary art, spent a few days visiting elementary through high school students at six area schools in an effort to see "where the school system fits into the art education spectrum."

Barrett then spent Saturday afternoon at the Contemporary Art Center of Virginia (formerly the Virginia Beach Center for the Arts) in a workshop with the teachers.

"The primary reason I brought him here is because of the national focus in art education is moving away from just making art, to incorporating art criticism, prosthetics and art history along



IN THEIR SHOES. Participants in a special teachers' art criticism workshop take a break from their studies last weekend by enjoying an upclose look at the Contemporary Art Center of Virginia's latest exhibit, "BABY." Relaxing, from left, are: Anne Wolcott, fine arts coordinator for Virginia Beach Public Schools; Terry Barrett, art criticism author; and, Betsy Djellio, director of education at the center.

with studio," Wolcott explained.

"I wanted an expert in the field of art criticism to come work with my teachers. It's been very positive. We've had a big response."

But just what is art criticism?

"When most people say art criticism, they think of negative things," said Barrett. "But that's not what I do. I try to get kids to interpret art and ask, 'What am I seeing? What's it about? What's the artwork exposing?' Then

when they do make judgments — when kids make judgments — they have to back it up with reasoning, not just personal preference."

It was a busy week for Barrett, who summarized his activities.

"I've been including different ways to teach children to interpret art and teachers have been observing me teaching," Barrett said.

"We've been discussing from their point of view and my point

of view the one great interest is to motivate kids to be more thoughtful about art — to look more carefully and think harder about what they see."

Making art in class is fine, he noted, but children also need to learn to think more. During his visits with first-through 12th-graders, Barrett said, he found the city's art emphasis to be on track.

See EDUCATORS, Page 10

Teen 'Celebrity' is Japan-bound

By PENNY A. POWELL

Sun Correspondent

Fifteen-year-old Cox High School student Neal Shrader is Japan-bound March 26, when he is the only non-senior traveling to the Orient with Celebrity, a vocal ensemble from the Governor's School for the Arts.

"I just think that the Governor's School for the Arts is the most wonderful thing," said Neal's mother, Carol. "These kids are getting the most phenomenal education. Most of the kids in the department really want to make performing a career and they are getting just a phenomenal education."

Not only is Carol her son's number one fan, but she's quite fond of the entire Celebrity family.

"I go along with them on all of their trips because they're so wonderful," she said. "Not only are they great performers, but they're



Neal Shrader

great kids, too. I feel like they're all my children."

Unfortunately, Carol will not be accompanying the talented group to Japan.

Celebrity will be visiting four Japanese cities and will provide

outstanding entertainment for opening ceremonies for the Forest Hills Golf Course in Hiroshima.

"They wanted an American performance," said Neal. "We're going to be doing things like the jazz ensemble, we're going to this beach medley set like the 60s beach medley and we're going to do a lot of sightseeing while we're there, because we don't often get to go to Japan."

Japanese high school students will also be entertained by Celebrity since the group will make some high school stop-overs during their week-long stay.

Celebrity's Japan travels is in conjunction with the Virginia Goodwill and Friendship Team, a delegation led by Dr. Hiroyuki Hamada who teaches at Old Dominion University.

In a letter to his delegation members, Hiroyuki said, "I feel we have a great delegation representing

Virginia and USA in the memorable occasion in Hiroshima, Japan. We are very confident you will be the best representative of citizens' ambassadors to Japan. My dear friends in Hiroshima are truly looking forward to the opportunity of forging our friendship during the grand celebration day."

The Japanese government is funding the trip.

To honor Black History Month, Celebrity has been on the road with their "I Have A Dream" performance. They recently visited Elizabeth City, N.C. and had a sold out show with a 2,000-person audience, as well as two sold out performances at the Landmark Theater in Richmond.

However, the group did recently get a chance to relax and be spectators instead of performers during their recent attendance at

See JAPAN, Page 10

Commentary

HAVE A HEART TO HELP

CPR: everyone should know

The tragedies were unthinkable. At two local high schools recently, young people in apparently good health proved looks can be deceiving. In Chesapeake, a student playing basketball collapsed and was saved with CPR. But in Virginia Beach the young man was not as lucky. These two incidents underscore the importance of everyone — teens, adults, senior citizens — leaning and understanding basic lifesaving skills.

CPR is the process where bystanders can keep blood and oxygen flowing to the brain of someone who has suffered a heart attack until professional help arrives. It typically takes rescue response between five and 10 minutes to arrive. These critical minutes can mean the difference between life and death.

To this end the American Red Cross, in a statewide event, will train hundreds of people in cardiopulmonary resuscitation on Saturday, March 15. There will be several locations throughout the region for people to sign up. For this one day the Red Cross will discount the class to \$10.

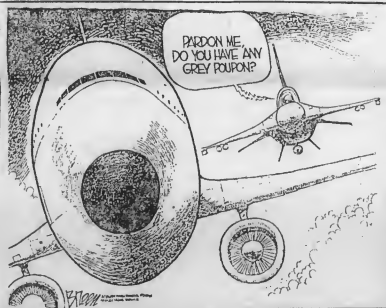
Times and places are:

■ Tidewater Chapter (serving Virginia Beach, Norfolk and portions of Chesapeake), Greenbrier Holiday Inn, 725 Woodlake Dr., Chesapeake. Sessions are from 8 - 11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call 446-7779 to register.

■ Portsmouth/West Chesapeake, 700 London Blvd., Portsmouth. Sessions are from 9 a.m. - noon and 1 - 4 p.m. Call 393-1031 to register.

■ Girls Inc., 5905 Portsmouth Blvd., Portsmouth. Sessions are from 9 a.m. - noon and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 393-1031 to register.

Have a heart to help. Sign up today. — V.E.H.



The Virginia Beach Sun Deadlines

News deadlines for The Virginia Beach Sun are Monday at 5 p.m. for the upcoming Friday's issue.

✓ Articles must be legible, preferably typed, double-spaced on standard-sized paper.

✓ Pictures must be sharp, clear and accompanied with complete information.

✓ News may be brought or mailed in and should include the name and telephone numbers of the person submitting it.

✓ The Virginia Beach Sun welcomes and encourages letters from its readers on topics of general interest.

✓ All letters must carry the name and address of writer for verification.

✓ Letters should be addressed to: Editor, The Virginia Beach Sun, 138 South Rosemont Road, Suite 209, Virginia Beach, Va. 23452. Phone: 486-3430.

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Smile in the face of adversity

Great are the uses of adversity. Gov. George Allen cut his mounting losses over refusing to accept federal Goals 2000 by relenting and opened a new front on "charters" for non-



Commonwealth Commentary

By Ray Garland, columnist

their school-improvement plan with national guidelines, supervised by a clutch of new boards and commissions.

Allen and other conservatives smelled a rat, saying the small sums at stake did not justify the degree of supervision over state programs implicit in the plain language of the federal law.

But refusing even so modest a sum as \$8 million in the context of state and local spending on schools now exceeding \$7 billion a year was a godsend to Democrats anxious to embarrass Allen and to reclaim the governorship behind Lt. Gov. Don Beyer.

It was, moreover, an issue most voters could grasp: Somebody else is getting "our" money and the governor is being silly not to take it.

Democrats had a good argument in pointing to more than \$350 million in federal education dollars Virginia was already receiving for a variety of purposes — to which federal regulations were attached. One could argue that the difference in these relate to special programs while Goals 2000 deals with broad issues of education policy.

Cutting to the chase, why did Democrats and the Virginia Education Association fight so hard to enroll Virginia in Goals 2000 when so little money was at stake? The first part is easy, it was a political issue on which they could hardly lose. But the

VEA would dearly love a larger federal role, especially if it somehow cracked that old nut of very different levels of funding between rich and poor school divisions.

The VEA knows that so long as Republicans control Congress, scant progress will be made toward increasing federal influence over school policy. But majorities can be overturned and the mood of the nation can change. Indeed, it is changing.

Politicians of both parties now fall all over themselves to convince voters they are the best friend education ever found. The idea of federal leadership in public education is by no means dead — witness recent presidential pronouncements touting it.

Well, what's wrong with that? The first thing wrong is the remarkable diversity of the country. National learning standards which might be laughably easy for students in Iowa could be impossibly difficult for those in Washington, D.C. Besides, no one has yet shown a convincing correlation between spending levels and student performance.

Why would some future Congress want to use its leverage to force states to spend more on schools? For one thing, there are powerful constituencies that would support such a policy.

For another, it would permit members of Congress to say they're doing something for education without having to raise federal taxes to pay for it. That chore would fall mainly on those below and most voters would never see a connection.

You need to understand that those who want something from government generally prefer decision-making concentrated at the top. Teachers are no different than truckers in wishing to deal with one Congress rather than 50 state legislatures and thousands of local bodies.

But just when Democrats thought Allen was cornered, help arrived from an unlikely quarter when Clinton made another big pitch in his State of the Union message for more federal funds for charter schools. This gave the governor an opening to host Beyer and the Democrats on their own rhetoric over Goals 2000.

If the president's request for \$100 million to aid charters is approved, Allen argued, Virginia could qualify for several million a year that would

otherwise go to the 25 states which have approved charter schools.

There was only one fly in the ointment: The House Education Committee had three times refused — including this year — to authorize the granting of charters to those Virginians wishing to organize a free public school that would enjoy a degree of independence to design its own program.

"No problem," said the governor, "now that we see this federal pot of gold for charters, I'll send down a last-minute bill to put us in line for our share of the swag." Or words to that effect, as Allen wrote Beyer and Clinton, asking for their help persuading Democrats on the Senate Education Committee to report the bill.

No sale. On a straight 8-7 party-line vote, Democrats defeated charters once again. They also passed their own bill reducing the governor's power of appointment to the state Council of Higher Education and delaying new, tougher accreditation standards for public schools that Allen's Board of Education is set to impose.

Though the last two are unlikely to survive the governor's veto, it's hard to see how he can prevail on charters absent Republican control of the legislature. While refusing federal funds for charters may give GOP candidates some talking points, the issue has yet to resonate with voters.

So, why do Clinton and Allen warmly embrace charters? For liberals, it's a way to show you aren't so wedded to the teachers' union that you won't consider any alternative to the traditional public-school format. Besides, it won't amount to much. For conservatives, it's a means of championing what sounds to be innovative school reform without taking the high political risk of endorsing tax-funded vouchers good at private schools.

Vouchers may be all right in private higher education, where they've been available for 25 years. But the VEA thinks charters are an opening wedge in breaking the near-monopoly in Grades K-12 public schools now enjoy. They don't want to end up like Ma Bell, fighting for a share of the market they once owned.

Domestic debacle fuels writing

When the well goes dry, I turn to my husband.



Off The Cuff

By Victoria Hecht, editor

Life itself — specifically, domestic life — is good fodder. It always proves to be a source of inspiration for column after column. In fact, it's the most popular topic. Poking fun at the husband, lovingly of course, is always amusing.

So this evening over a bowl of steaming spaghetti and meatballs I posed the question "What should I write my column about this week?"

Don't ask me what goes through Evan's mind, because the answer I got was "what goes into hot dogs."

Yuck! That's one I prefer not to ponder. Hot dogs are the great American delicacy that I love to devour, but would never desire to see being made. It scares me to think of what they put into wieners.

Evan's column suggestion alone made me wonder what goes through the male mind.

With that in mind (no pun intended) I really did begin to wonder what goes through the male brain. I saw a cartoon pie chart once, and it divided the male mind up into five categories: food, sex, football, sleep and, yes, about 1 percent work.

I have to disagree with that chart. I wouldn't say just football. I'd make that sports in general.

Having observed my own male specimen one on one for the past year and three months (time flies in this experiment called marriage), I came up with my own scientific explanations for men's behavior.

Let's examine a few traits: ■ The Great Ice Tray Debate — There would be nary a cube of ice in the home if it weren't for the female gender. Why is this?

Personally, I think men have an aversion to cold water, which would explain their unwillingness to turn on the cold tap and run a tray under it for two seconds. It would also explain why anything cooler than a scalding shower is unacceptable for the husband.

Just to even things out, I'll occasionally run a load of dishes and hot cycle laundry just as Evan steps into the shower. In two minutes, presto! Cold water! Of course, I only get malicious like this when he fails yet again to refill the ice trays.

■ The Dirty Dish Debacle — Why is it that the male gender is quick to inhale the food we've labored to create, yet shies from a dirty dish quicker than he can say "Gee, honey, I'm so full. I think I'll go lay down?"

One time I rebelled. As disgusting as it sounds, I let the dishes pile up into the sink until there was nary a glass or plate left in the house. Gross?

Yes. But it had to be done to prove a point.

This question continues to mystify me. Again, I think there's an aversion. But to what? Scrapping plates? Rinsing them off under the tap with hot water? Getting the hands dirty?

One time I rebelled. As disgusting as it sounds, I let the dishes pile up into the sink until there was nary a glass or plate left in the house. Gross?

Yes. But it had to be done to prove a point.

The result? Evan just broke out the paper plates and disposable plastic cups. Go figure!

■ The Eternal Commode Controversy — A lot of ladies can sympathize with me on this one. How many times have they stumbled into the restroom in the middle of the night only to splash down?

Men apparently have a fundamental inability to put down the toilet seat. The results are a sopping wife

who crawls back to bed drenched in cold commode water. I think it's a male conspiracy. I haven't figured out a way to get even yet.

■ The Hamper Tossup — If marriage hinged on a man's willingness to put his dirty clothes in the hamper, the divorce rate would be 99 percent. Honest.

I haven't met a woman yet whose husband has mastered this common decency. Put their clothes in the hamper? Who are they kidding?

For a while I thought I had trained Evan in this category. I watched him undress at night, chortling him to put each pair of pants, every sock, everything into the hamper.

But when I wasn't looking, it was back to his old self — clothes on the floor, hung over chairs in the kitchen, spread around the den and tucked under the bed. I should have screamed "Hallelujah!" when he managed to get a dirty shirt on top of the hamper, though not inside.

Oh well. At least it was a start. ■ The Empty Milk Bottle Brouhaha — We don't get milk in canteen. We have our delivered by Yoder Dairies, so it's easy to see when a bottle is empty. Yet my husband seems to go temporarily blind after he's drained the last drop from a bottle.

Once empty, where does the bottle go? Back in the refrigerator, of course. Rinsing it out and putting in the sink, you see, would put the bottle in another category — dirty dish. And we know that's a big faux pas, don't we?

■ The Open Drawer Dilemma — This final one is perhaps the most perplexing. It's not just my husband, but most guys I've come into contact with. They just can't seem to close a drawer.

Every morning after Evan has cleared out (he's at work near the crack of dawn), I drag myself out of bed. Sometimes I like to go to the kitchen for some juice first, other times I head straight for the shower. Wherever I go, however, I'm bound to strike my knees, legs or hips on a drawer left wide open with clothes spilling out.

I have the black and blue marks to prove it.

Why, I wonder, is the simple act of closing what one opens so difficult? That goes for doors and cabinets as well.

The only explanation? They're men. See that's all. But I still love mine — annoying quips included.

Hometown friend still remembered

I am a member of the Laurens County Historical Society, which is located at Dublin, Ga., my old hometown. At least it was a town long ago. I hardly recognize it now, it has grown so much. The Dublin Laurens Museum, which is part of the Historical Society, is in the old Carnegie library building where I obtained my first library card and spent many happy hours reading the books that were available to members at that time.



The Real World

By B.J. Sessions, senior columnist

Recently, I received my quarterly newsletter from the society. A story titled "We Lived! We Made It Out! We're Going Home!" brought back memories of Dublin and what it was like during World War II. It was a story about Lt. James Adams of Dublin who was shot down, captured and survived to return home. That story about Lt. Adams reminded me of another flyer from Dublin who didn't "make it home."

I ran to where the pilot had landed. One look told me that he was dead. He had been hit by his own plane.

His name was W.W. Jordan Jr. "Wee," as he was known affectionately by those close to him, had joined the U.S. Air Corps and was stationed at San Diego, Calif. I had joined the U.S. Marine Corps and was also stationed at San Diego. Neither of us knew that the other one was there.

During those days in 1943, the West Coast was always on the alert. A Jap sub had shelled Santa Barbara and any unusual happening would send everybody to general quarters. At about noon on a bright sunny day, we heard an explosion out across the bay. I ran out of the building where I had been attending judo classes and as I looked up at the sky, I saw debris falling to the ground from two P-38 fighter planes that had collided in mid air.

Part of one plane almost hit the building I was in, while the other one crashed into the bay. I saw one parachute drop into the bay, while the other one landed about two blocks from where I was located. I ran to where the pilot had landed. One look told me that he was dead. He had been hit by his own plane.

I returned to my classes, when a few minutes later an instructor from mine from Atlanta returned from the

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Information Technology: what you didn't know

Virginia Beach exists to enhance the economic, educational, social and physical quality of the community and provide municipal services valued by its citizens. The Department of Information Technology exists to foster and support effective and efficient information solutions providing quality support for city and school operation.



The Mayor's Report

Mayor Meyer Oberdorf

With these goals in mind, the Department of Information Technology implemented a process improvement team who's vision was to provide accurate and up-to-date information and facilitate Quality Customer Service through the utilization of new technologies for the Citizens of Virginia Beach.

The process improvement team recommended the purchase of an Interactive Information Response System (IIRS), a computer based interactive system. The IIRS system provides citizens interactive, real-time, access to City Services and Computer Data via their touch tone telephone.

The IIRS System was designed to provide customers of the City of Virginia Beach improved service by extending through the use of computer technology and the telephone, round the clock access to various local government services. Our hope is that the system enables services to take place on the customers terms not ours.

The first application of service to be provided on the IIRS System is a Permits and Inspections System. In the first application for building permits, inspection requests and results can be accessed anytime from any touch-tone phone. No longer do these customers have to wait until regular business hours to access these services.

Our vision includes expanding this technology and other new technologies to many other government services. This IIRS System was developed through partnership with the Planning Department, Information Technology, the Contracting Community, Virginia Natural Gas and Virginia Power and to date is handling 11,000 calls monthly.

The services offered include:
■ Contractors/Citizens — access system 24 hours a day, 365 days per year inquire inspection results, schedule and cancel inspections.

■ Inspectors — update inspection results real-time via cellular phones; upon entry of final inspection the IIRS will generate a Virginia Natural Gas Release, Virginia Power Release, and Certificate of Occu-

pancy; and, fax permits and Inspections all of the above prior to the IIRS System being installed, contractors had approximately one hour in the morning to contact the individual inspectors to schedule inspections. Inspection result forms were not submitted to the Permits and Inspections Office until the morning of the following business day.

The utility companies received release information only twice a day, which caused delays in connecting services for our citizens. The Certificate of Occupancy was mailed upon request. All of this information and services are now available real time, 20 hours a day, with a telephone call to the IIRS System (427-4YOU).

The city is looking forward to identifying other services that may have a potential for utilizing the IIRS to expand or enhance services to the citizens of Virginia Beach. Some of these services which have been identified by a process improvement team for further consideration include utility bill inquiries, traffic court fines, court dockets, accounts payable and receivable, property information and bidder information.

If you are interested in this new technology, contact the Department of Information Technology at 427-8668.

Deborah Claxton, Virginia Beach telecommunications coordinator, contributed to this column.

Assault, robbery suspect sought by Va. Beach police

A woman was assaulted and robbed at an ATM machine in the Hilltop section. One phone call could earn the caller a cash reward and get a violent criminal off the street.

On Wednesday, Feb. 12 at 9:30 a.m., a 32-year-old woman was at the Naval Federal Credit Union on Laskin Road in the Hilltop North Shopping Center. She was approached by a

man who demanded money and struck her several times in the face before taking the money.

The robber is described as black, about 20 years old, 6-feet-tall and 180 pounds. He was wearing a black baseball cap, a black quilted jacket, baggy jeans and new white tennis shoes.

Any information can be provided to Crime Solvers by calling 427-0000.

Beginning this year, the Shamrock Sportsfest will host the National Military Marathon Championship. The race is open to all active duty military and medals will be awarded to first place runners in male and female categories. Major sponsors of the event are Bud Light, 360° Communications and Adidas.

Kicking off the two-day sporting event on March 14, the Sport and Fitness Expo at the Virginia Beach Pavilion Convention Center will feature a variety of exhibitors from sportswear apparel vendors to nutritional products.

Additionally, Dr. Liz Applegate, a nationally recognized expert on nutrition and performance will lecture on the relationship between high-performance running and nutrition.

On March 15, the sporting events begin at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

The courses include portions of Virginia Beach's famous oceanfront boardwalk and Fort Story where marathoners will pass the country's oldest lighthouse.

The two-day event will conclude with a post-race beach music party at the Virginia Beach oceanfront.

For more information on the Virginia Beach Shamrock Sportsfest, call 481-5090.

Up close and personal

Beverly Duane: Getting her 'Second Wind'

By VICTORIA HECHT

Sun Editor

Hampton Roads has its theatrical companies, opera and symphony. But, according to Beverly Cordova Duane, it has yet to establish a strong contemporary dance presence.

As founder of Second Wind Dance Company, Duane out to change that.

The public can see the latest results of these efforts next weekend when "Voices," the first performance in the company's 1997 season, shows March 6-8 at the Contemporary Art Center in Virginia Beach.

A native of Buffalo, N.Y., Duane moved to Hampton Roads several years ago with her husband's job relocation. She already had a successful dance company back home and knew the success could be repeated here.

In 1994, she debuted Cordova Dance Theatre, now Second Wind Dance Company, as the area's newest alternative contemporary dance group.

"I have already built an audience here and continue to do so," she said. "We have professional drama, professional theater and opera, but we're just beginning to get professional dance. That's where my company comes into play. We're offering something that's needed in this community. Yes, there are small, local ballet troupes, but they don't deal with modern dance. Another distinguishing feature of us is we're able to do social issues through our dance."

From AIDS to domestic violence to eating disorders, contemporary dance can tackle these issues in a way that other art forms cannot. Second Wind goes one better and integrates social issues, dance and other art forms such as poetry and drama. "It's great that we have a form to do that with in modern dance, because it permits you to do anything — to take risks. That's one thing that I'd like to do with this company is take artistic risk — not just do the same ballets and works that have been done before. My vision is creating new work."

That vision will be fulfilled when "Voices" debuts March 6. Duane, who holds a graduate degree in dance from the State University of New York at Brockport and was the recipient of the Pylyshenko-Srasser Award for choreographic excellence, has pulled together myriad talents for the performance.

"Voices" features New York choreographer and guest artist Randy James, who launched his own New York dance company. He will perform "Estuary" with Second Wind dancer Kathryn Finney. The dance explores birth and complex relationship between man and water. A "haunting" violin solo by Giuseppe Tartini complements the dance.

Guest artists will also include Elbert Watson, a former Alvin Ailey dancer, and Laura Pettibone Wright, a soloist for 13 years with the world-renowned Erick Hawkins Dance Company. She choreographs "New Life" to the sounds of marimba.

The show will highlight Duane's talents with two new pieces, "Celtic Voices" and "Burnt Center." The former is set to Celtic folk and classical music, opening with a fluid, lyrical solo performed by original company member Corinna Davis.

The latter, "Burnt Center," is a work about domestic violence and family alienation.

Apart from Second Wind, Duane is active as an adjunct professor at Old Dominion University and Regent University. She also teaches at the Governor's School for the Arts and Dance where her work, "Beauty For Ashes," won national acclaim at the Second National High School Dance Festival in 1992. She also choreographed "Godspell," voted the best musical in Hampton Roads in 1992.

Recently, Duane danced and toured with Ken Tolle's Hosanna Sacred Arts and danced in Atlanta's 1996 Olympic Concert.



She also choreographed and co-directed "Dayuma," a nationally-touring multimedia dance production.

As founder of Second Wind, however, it seems most of Duane's energies are spent keeping the emerging company at the forefront. For the upcoming production, she said "I'm producing, directing, choreographing and dancing — all in that order!" Duane is also Second Wind's public relations person, but she's hoping that as the company grows she can delegate some duties.

"I'm hoping all that will change, to be honest. I need management, grant writers, volunteers and so on. I see real potential," she said.

Tickets to "Voices" are \$9 general admission, \$6 for students and senior citizens. Performance are at 8 p.m. nightly. Call 424-7584 for tickets.

"I'm producing, directing, choreographing and dancing — all in that order!"
Beverly Cordova Duane, choreographer

Name: Beverly Cordova Duane.

What brought you to this area: The shining sun.

Hometown: Buffalo, N.Y. (snow city).

Birthdate: April 3, 1962.

Nickname: Bev, short for Beverly.

Occupation: Choreographer and dancer.

Marital Status: Married to James.

Children: Daniel Michael Duane, 4, who loves playing with Thomas the Tank Engine.

Favorite movies: "Joy Luck Club" and "Best Intentions."

Magazines I read regularly: Vegetarian Times and Dance Magazine.

Favorite night out on the town: Barnes and Noble for late-night reading.

Favorite restaurant: Coyote Cafe.

Favorite meal and beverage: Vegetarian lasagna and carrot juice.

What most people don't know about me: Why would I let them know now?

Best thing about myself: I have drive and persistence. I can do 10 things at once.

Worst habit: Impatience.

Pets: None.

Ideal vacation: Beaches of Jamaica.

Hobbies: Nutrition and swimming.

Pet peeves: Not having enough time to do all I want to do.

First job: Cashiering at a supermarket.

Worst job: Same as above.

Favorite sport team: Buffalo Bills, even though they're losers.

Favorite musicians: Mozart (classical) and Ani DiFranco (contemporary), an up-and-coming New York rock star, dancer and friend.

Most embarrassing moment: When friend Deborah Thorpe tells about me breastfeeding my baby while doing floor exercises in dance classes.

I would like my epitaph to read: "Here lies Superwoman."

If I received \$1 million: I'd have the world's richest dance company ever.

If I had 10 minutes on national television: I would promote the arts and encourage young children to pursue arts education.

Lace up those sneakers for the Shamrock Sportsfest '97

The Virginia Beach Shamrock Sportsfest will celebrate its 25th anniversary March 14-15 when the city hosts more than 5,000 national and international runners, some of whom are world-ranked.

ESPN is set to tape the prestigious event for later broadcast to 65 million cable viewers on its "Saucy Running and Racing" program. Other national and international print and television news coverage is also planned.

The Sportsfest, which has grown from a local running event with humble beginnings to one with national and international standing, will challenge runners from 10 different countries. Top competitors travel from throughout the U.S. and many countries including Russia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Hungary, Ireland, Mexico and Canada.

Noted for qualifying more runners for Olympic trials than any other race in the U.S. and for setting world records, the Virginia Beach Shamrock Sportsfest currently holds the world record for the masters 8K set by Nick Rose in 1992 at 23:13, and former world record by Greta Waitz in 1986 in the 8K at 25:03.

The event's hallmark race is the Shamrock Marathon which draws world-class runners and is a qualifying race for both the Boston Marathon and Olympic trials.

The Virginia Beach Sportsfest will feature an 8K open race, (identified in *Runner's World Magazine* as one of the best



THE ARTS

Whimsical 'Twelfth Night' opens at Va. Stage

Whimsical comedy, exuberant music, rambunctious revelry and some of William Shakespeare's greatest comic creations will be on stage at the Wells Theatre in March when Virginia Stage Company (VSC) presents the Bard's liveliest (and shortest) comedy, "Twelfth Night."

Zany merriment is the order of the day in this delightful comedy of mistaken identity, practical jokes, and the foibles of human nature. "Twelfth Night" will run March 2 - 23.

"Twelfth Night's" "midsummer madness" centers around Viola, a young woman shipwrecked on the shores of Illyria. Separated from her twin brother Sebastian and alone in this strange land, Viola decides to masquerade as a man until she can return home. As "Cesario," she is sent by the Count Orsino to woo on his behalf the beautiful Lady Olivia. Viola falls in love with Orsino, who is in love with Olivia, who falls in love with Cesario!

The plot device of mistaken identity was hardly new even in

Elizabethan times, but this merry-making is pure Shakespeare. Here he creates some of his most memorable characters: the priggish Malvolio, the caustic Sir Toby Belch, the ridiculous Sir Andrew Aguecheek, mischievous Maria, and Festus the court fool.

As with all of Shakespeare's great characters, it is their honesty, if sometimes misguided, humanity that has kept them popular over the centuries.

A party is not a party without music. The festive atmosphere of "Twelfth Night" is enhanced by lively Celtic music provided by John Linnorons. A Pennsylvania resident, Linnorons was called "one of the best hammered dulcimer players in the country" by *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

"His third solo album, 'Coming Home Early,' is currently in production.

"When I thought about doing 'Twelfth Night,' I thought about John," says VSC artistic director and "Twelfth Night" director Charlie Hensley. "I find that I

frequently go back to my Irish roots. In this case, the Celtic music is just right. It adds a wonderful flavor to the play; making Illyria an even more magical place."

Linnorons is accompanied by two talented local fiddle players Andy Cleveland and Carol Thomas Downing.

Cleveland, a native of England has been playing Irish fiddle for 20 years. He is a member of the folk band Dramtree which played at Lincoln Center this past August. The fiddle that he plays is one he made himself while working as a violin maker.

Downing teaches violin and fiddle and is currently a member of the local band Live Music. Previously she played with Cross Coull; a folk trio in the Baltimore/Washington, D.C. area. The 17-member "Twelfth Night" cast includes all eight members of this season's VSC Core Company. Hensley, who formed the acting ensemble in the fall, says, "Our audience has been writing to say how pleased

They are to watch these actors practicing their craft, transforming themselves from role to role. "Twelfth Night" will be a striking grand finale to the company's work this year."

Making their VSC debuts are Connie Rouda as Maria, Dana Bate as Sir Toby Belch and Steven Hauck as Malvolio. Rouda, founding member of the comedy troupe Alarm Dog Rep, last appeared at the Metropolitan Playhouse in New York. Bate has performed in Theatre up and down the East Coast including The Asolo, Hartford Stage Company, the Walnut Street Theatre and Boston's Charles Playhouse. Hauck has worked at numerous regional theatres including The Asolo and the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and toured Europe for two years in Ken Hill's "Phantom of the Opera."

Joining Hensley on the creative team are VSC associate artists Dex Edwards, who has designed a Watteau-inspired garden environment, and Kentol Yenger,

who will design lighting for this production. The 18th-century costume design is by Constance Hoffman, who makes her VSC debut after designing costumes for Virginia Opera's recent "Julius Caesar."

"Twelfth Night" runs from

March 2 - 23 at the Wells Theatre in Norfolk. Valet parking is available for only \$4 per vehicle. Student, senior, military and group discounts are available. For ticket information patrons may call the box office at 627-1234.

D'ART Center opens painting, sculpture show

The "Hand Body and Spirit" painting and sculpture exhibition opens Friday, March 7 with an opening reception from 6 - 8 p.m. at the d'ART Center. This show will feature two educators, Jean Booton and Rita Marlier from Norfolk and former resident at the center, Shaunin Lui from Portsmouth.

Marlier and Booton, both sculptresses affiliated with Old Dominion University, will join forces with painter Lui, who owns River Gallery in Chesapeake, to present this mega, multi-media show.

nature, will be Booton's offering. Originating during the Byzantine Age as shrines to the saints, these cherished containers often held bones of hair, shards of bone, pieces of teeth or remnants of clothing. Today they may be used for saving keepsakes such as children's locks and teeth or preserving funeral ashes.

Lui, known for her hand-made paper and bold watercolors will exhibit "Spirit of Nature" — oil paintings of seascapes, waterscapes and landscapes — manifesting a new direction and touch for Lui.

Local acoustic guitar musician and composer Chris Van Cleave of Virginia Beach will provide music for the opening reception on March 7.

"Hand Body and Spirit" will exhibit through April 20.

The d'ART Center, a workspace/studio/gallery located in downtown Norfolk at 125 College Place is open, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sunday from 1 - 5 p.m. And there is no cost for admission.

For additional information, call 625-4211.

Mozart and More series wraps up

Music Director and Conductor JoAnn Falletta and the Virginia Symphony completes its Mozart and More Classics Series for the Virginia Symphony's 1996-97 season on Friday, Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. at Williamsburg's United Methodist Church and on Saturday, March 1 at 8 p.m. at Hampton Roads Academy.

The concert will feature two Virginia Symphony musicians, violinist Debra Fong and violist Beverly Baker.

The program will include Mozart's "Sinfonia Concertante for Violin and Viola," Schubert's "Rosamunde Overture" and Strauss' "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme."

Baker has played with the Virginia Symphony since 1983 and was appointed principal violist for the Virginia Symphony and Virginia Opera in 1995. This spring she will be premiering "Sanctum" by Adolphus Hailstork as part of the Virginia International Arts Festival. Recently, she was featured on Bruce Hornsby's "Harbor Lights" and is included in the book "Black Women in American Orchestras" by D. Antoinette Handy.

From 1990 to 1996, Fong was principal second violinist of the Virginia Symphony, assistant concertmaster of the Virginia Opera, a faculty member of The

College of William and Mary, and a founding member of Apollo, the chamber ensemble of the Virginia Symphony. She currently spends her summers as first violinist of the Santa Fe Opera.

Tickets for the Mozart and More Classics concert are \$15 to \$22 and may be purchased by calling TicketMaster at 671-8100 (Southside), at the Virginia Symphony Ticket Store located at 550 East Main St., Suite 505, at 623-2310 (Southside) or any Tidewater First Virginia Bank. Special student seats are available for \$6.

'Magic' transforms the Wells

Magic transforms the stage of the magnificent Wells Theatre on March 1 at 7:30 p.m. when six professional magicians perform in a two-hour show to benefit Virginia Stage Company. "Magic at the Wells," on the set of the company's upcoming production, Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," presents an evening of illusion, trickery and comedy — sprinkled with feats of levitation, sleight of hand and disappearing acts.

Magic Virginia 97, a private day-long conference for magicians across the mid-Atlantic region of the United States, culminates with

the evening performance of "Magic at the Wells."

Beginning at 6:15 p.m. and continuing until 7:15 p.m., six magicians will perform close-up magic in each of the Wells Theatre's three lobbies. Opening at 7:30 p.m., the show gets under way with performances by five of this area's top professional magicians. With more than 100 years of experience between them, top area professionals Rand Hermoso, Tony Torres, Pete Pedersen, Al Albers and Scott Wagner will perform in 10-minute sets sure to please audiences young

and old. Denny Haney, of the talented duo, Denny and Lee, will emcee the first half of this magical evening.

Following a brief intermission, the audience will be treated to the piece de resistance performance by Denny and Lee, a world-class magical pair who have opened for the likes of David Copperfield, Joan Rivers and others during their more than 25 years in the business.

Tickets are \$10 reserved seating and can be purchased at the Virginia Stage Company box office, corner of Monticello Avenue and Tazewell Street in downtown Norfolk. Call 627-1234 for details.

Candace Faber reception scheduled

Hope House Foundation, a non-profit organization founded in 1964 which provides support services for people with developmental disabilities, announces an artist reception to be held on Thursday, March 6 at 5 p.m. at the Hope House Foundation Thrift Shop, located at 1800 Monticello Ave. in Norfolk.

Candace Faber has been a freelance design consultant since

1982, and has worked with such companies as Dundee Mills, Fittz and Floyd and Gordon Fraser. She has won numerous awards including Best Of Show in the 1989 Lubbock Classic and participated in Hope House Foundation's Stockley Gardens Art Festival, held every spring and fall.

Faber will donate 20 percent of all her art sales to Hope House Foundation.

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'James Towne Rediscovered' in Beach presentation

By BOB RUEGSEGGER
Sun Correspondent

When I first met Dr. William M. Kelso, director of archaeology for the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA) Jamestown Rediscovery - Archaeological Project, in August at Jamestown Island, he declined to confirm that he and his team of archaeologists had located part of the original James Fort.

Everyone on the island believed that the site of the original fort had been found, but no one other than Kelso could officially verify it.

Even though Kelso knew he could not tell me that the original fort had been located, he graciously agreed to speak with me briefly. He would only say that "something very significant" had been uncovered. Kelso also knew that the "official" announcement would be made on Sept. 12 by Gov. George Allen and representatives of the APVA.

Allen confirmed what everyone suspected and what many already knew when he said, "...I am very pleased to announce officially a finding of monumental significance. We have discovered America's birthplace - the original Jamestown Fort."

Kelso's remarks in September were not those cryptic words spoken in August. In his speech about the excavated site, he was about as far from ambiguous as one can get.

"Today, after finding here at Jamestown once shining armor, footprints of fortification, and literally looking at the face of a fallen 17th-century Jamestown adventurer, I am tempted to say, rumors of the death of James Fort by river erosion were greatly exaggerated. Indeed, lost James Fort is found!" he stated unequivocally.

That was what I had wanted to hear in August.

Now, that I officially knew the facts, that wasn't enough.

My curiosity and interest about the specifics of this monumental historic discovery had to be satisfied. What else could be anticipated? What other discoveries might be made? How long would the process take? How much of the rest of the fort might be excavated? I had a million questions.

When I learned that Kelso would be making a slide-lecture presentation entitled "James Towne Rediscovered" last week at the Virginia Beach Fire Training Center Auditorium on Birdneck Road, I immediately marked my calendar and phoned Vicki Harvey at the Francis Land House Historic Site for reservations.

This was not an opportunity to be missed. I knew that I had to be



CAREFUL. Curator Bly Straube holds an apothecary jar that was reconstructed from excavated fragments.

there.

This time around, I was not at all disappointed. For all of the questions that it was humanly possible to answer, Kelso had honest, straight forward answers. And he had a few fascinating surprises as well.

The most startling discovery, according to Kelso, was finding the footprint of James Fort.

"This was the 'eureka moment,'" he said.

Although the conventional thinking had long been that the original fort had been consumed by the river, the evidence that Kelso has located indicates that about 80 to 90 percent of the original site of Fort James is still on land. Ground radar has been used to verify the location of the fort walls without complete excavation.

Perhaps, the most engaging artifact found during the excavation is the brass signet ring bearing William Strachey's family crest. The uniqueness of the signet ring is that it can be traced to a single individual, William Strachey who was secretary and recorder on Lord Delaware's council at Jamestown.

"We're about 99 percent sure that this signet ring belonged to William Strachey," Kelso confirmed.

Another tantalizing possibility is that there's a chance that the skeletal remains of the settler (JR102C) excavated just prior to the news conference in September can be identified through a scientific reconstruction of the settler's head. The features revealed through reconstruction could conceivably be compared to English portraits which might reveal an individual or family resemblance.

The settler's remains (JR102C) will be interred with a suitable ceremony.

Although unearthing the relics of food, domestic animals and supplies, didn't get much media attention, Kelso contends that much can be learned about domestic life in the early years of Jamestown by examining the garbage of the early colonists.

Sturgeon plates and turtle shells found in refuse pits were a clear indication of what the early colonists turned to for sustenance. Horse teeth in the trash suggested that during tough times, colonists might have looked with culinary favor on unconventional sources of meat.

According to one of Capt. John Smith's accounts, one colonist



UNHAPPY ENDING. This skeleton is believed to be the remains of Capt. George Kendall, who was executed because he was thought to be a Spanish spy.



FASCINATING FINDINGS. William Kelso, director of archaeology for the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, addresses a Virginia Beach crowd about Jamestown findings.

"powdered" (salted) his wife after her death to preserve her flesh for future consumption. Smith claimed that the attentive husband was convicted of murder and executed; however, it should be noted that Smith's account was second hand.

No evidence has been found to indicate that colonists engaged in cannibalism even as a last resort during the Starving Time of 1609. Although bone fragments were commonly found in refuse, no evidence existed that indicated the skeletal remains were of human origin.

What does the future hold for the Jamestown Rediscovery Project?

Of course, no one can predict the future, but Kelso projects that by the year 2000 about one-third of the triangular James Fort will have been excavated.

For those who are interested in a more tangible James Fort, a full-scale reconstructed example exists at nearby Jamestown Settlement which is operated by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. The triangular configuration, overall dimensions, and interior contents of this replica structure are consistent with period descriptions given by Captain Smith and William Strachey.

Kelso thinks this reconstructed fort is an excellent representation of the original James Fort. "There are some differences," he noted. "For example, where planks have been used in the reconstructed fort, we have been finding poles."

How much of the original site of James Fort will have been excavated in time for 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown in 2007?

Kelso couldn't really say; he prefers to think in four year intervals. But one can safely bet that he will be looking forward with considerable anticipation to the coming quadricentennial celebration at Jamestown.



WHAT A FIND. This brass signet ring is believed to have been the property of Jamestown colonist William Strachey because it bears the family crest.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Remodeling doesn't always add value to your house

Don't decide to do a home remodeling project because you think it will add value to the house.

"The re-sale value of the house will not necessarily cover the cost of the remodeling," said a Virginia Cooperative Extension specialist.

If the project takes the house above the average value of similar houses in the neighborhood, it may make it more difficult to sell the house, said Kathleen Parrott, a Virginia Tech housing specialist.

"It is usually difficult to sell a house that is more than 20 percent higher than others in the

same area," she said.

There are remodeling projects that add value. A third or fourth bedroom, a fireplace, a second bath, modernizing the kitchen or adding storage space will make a house easier to sell.

If the project is to add a fifth bedroom or a third bath, it may make it more difficult to recoup the remodeling costs when the house is sold.

Features that are unique and appeal only to a limited number of families limit the resale of a home. These include swimming pools, greenhouses, solar panels and such items.

Save energy with sunshine

One of the major benefits of windows is the natural lighting they provide. Natural light, or daylight, has several advantages.

Using daylight saves energy and money. For instance many office buildings have large amounts of glass, because the windows reduce lighting costs more than they increase heating and cooling costs.

South windows are particularly beneficial because they reduce lighting costs and winter heating equipments.

Properly located windows can reduce lighting costs. In some passive solar homes, lights may never be needed during the day, thus saving as much as \$10 per month on electricity costs.

Even in the summer daylighting can save energy and money, because it provides less heat for a given amount of light.

The heat produced by artificial lighting adds to the burden on air conditioning systems.



HISTORY LIVES ON. Jamestown Settlement, which is adjacent to Jamestown Island, boasts a full-scale replica of the original Fort James.

She's got her hands full

By BOB RUEGSEGGER
Sun Correspondent

While some high school students choose to spend their spare time in traditional ways, MariCarmen Kongiebel-Rosique, a sophomore at First Colonial High School here in Virginia Beach, volunteers her time at the Audrey Noel-Hume Archaeological Laboratory on Jamestown Island.

She's preparing for a career as an archaeologist. On her Presidents' Day holiday, Kongiebel-Rosique spent her time picking through bags of rubble containing brick fragments, pieces of glass, bone fragments, rusty nails and

assorted other refuse. Her task was to sort the mixed debris, label it and seal it in separate plastic bags.

The highlight of her day was finding a single bone die which she labeled and sealed in a tiny plastic bag. She was justly proud of her find.

Finding that tiny die in a pile of mixed rubble must've been akin to finding a needle in a haystack. It was a true test of determination. This time her patience was rewarded.

As an archaeologist, Kongiebel-Rosique will need endless patience and determination. Just ask Dr. William Kelso, the director of archaeology at Jamestown.



DIGGING IN. MariCarmen Kongiebel-Rosique, a student at First Colonial High School, sorts piles of mixed debris from the Jamestown Rediscovery Project.

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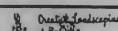
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HAMPTON ROADS ON THE MOVE

They won't trade that old tradition

By JANE ROWE
Sun Correspondent

Even in these days of mammoth supermarkets and ubiquitous convenience stores, it's still possible to make money in a small community store if you know your target market.

That's the advice of Eddie Johnson, the new owner of "Trader Vic's."

Johnson, a Texas native, offers a little bit of everything, including locally made jellies and Tex-Mex lunch items at his Charity Neck Road store. Business is good, he said, but the entire family works almost around the clock to keep it that way.

"The best thing about this business is also the most challenging thing," he said. "It's being your own boss."

Johnson, who lives on Indian River Road, had become frustrated with his job at a rental center "when a friend told me this store was for sale." He drove down to look at the store "and it was love at first sight. It reminded me of some of the stores in Texas, Missouri and Oklahoma," where he'd grown up.

"I always wanted to go into business for myself, Johnson continued. "I figured if I could work so hard for someone else I could do it for myself." He's been in business for seven months now, and although he admits it's been a learning process, he added that the store's been more lucrative than he expected it to be in the first year.

The first thing he and his wife, Diana, did, was decide what they wanted to keep and what they wanted to change about the market, which has been a community landmark for years.

The store's name, they decided, was one thing that had to stay the

way it was.

"When Mrs. Brinkley (who ran the store for several years) died, the building's owner, Vic West, incorporated it under the name 'Trader Vic', Johnson said. "I bought the corporation, and when I learned that it would cost twice as much to change the name, I decided to keep it."

Johnson also decided that Mrs. Brinkley's sandwiches, which were the store's calling card, also had to stay. Locals, daytrippers and city workers still stop by to get the sandwiches, made with white bread and mayonnaise, and Johnson was up at 6:30 a.m. on a recent Sunday morning to make sandwiches for a local charity event.

"One little girl told me 'this is the closest to Mrs. Brinkley's sandwiches anybody has come,'" Johnson said. "We told her that it's just the love you put in each one. She always used Mary Jane bread, mayonnaise, and just a dash of salt and pepper."

Johnson and Diana still use the Mary Jane bread, but they've also added their own touches, including fresh baked goods and homemade tacos. Diana gets up early every morning to bake the cookies and cakes and make wedding cakes and other decorative cakes on order.

And, although the Johnsons cater to local tastes, it was perhaps a touch of Texas pride that prompted them to add tacos, nachos, breakfast burritos and taco salads to the menu.

"When my wife and I first got married, we survived on tacos," Johnson said. "My wife makes the fresh homemade flour tortillas. Once you've had one you'll never go back to Taco Bell."

The Johnsons also sell locally



DIG IN. Eddie Johnson, owner of Trader Vic's, still sells the sandwiches that made the small store a local landmark. But he and his wife, Diana, have added homebaked goodies and some Tex-Mex food to the menu.

made jams, jellies and herbal vinegars, Bergey's ice cream, and crafts on consignment. The hottest seller so far seems to be Diana's chocolate chip cookies, but learning what will sell has been a process of "trial and error," Johnson said.

"The customers come in for everything from a loaf of bread to a sandwich," according to Johnson. "You have to get to know them, and to listen to suggestions. You never know which one will make money for you."

"The hardest thing is to get vendors to come out here," he added. "We're such a small Mom and Pop operation that a lot of them feel this is a little too far out for them."

He often has to travel to the vendors, and he sometimes gets up in the wee hours of the morning to get the sausage and ham for his breakfast biscuits.

The local people have responded so favorably to his business, Johnson said, that he recently threw a Halloween bash "because I wanted to do something for the community.

And I know there's not a whole lot for the kids to do out here on Halloween night." He plans to donate the \$22 in proceeds from the games to Creeds Elementary, and he also hopes to sponsor a drawing for charity for Christmas.

Johnson says that he loves running the store, but he adds that there are trade-offs. He's on the job from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, then 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Saturday and a few hours on Sunday. Diana's in the store by 8:30 a.m., and bakes until it's time to report to her job at Cigna Insurance Company, where she works from 1 to 9 p.m. She also bakes all day on Monday, which isher day off from Cigna. Even their son Brandon, an eighth-grader at Princess Anne Middle School, doesn't get much free time these days. He works in the store in the afternoons and on weekends, but he said that he enjoys his work, and that it gives him a chance to see his friends from school.

"He likes getting those paychecks," his father added. "But this has definitely brought the family unit together."

Iron can be toxic to young children

Since 1986, more than 125,000 incidents of children ingesting iron-containing medications were reported, resulting in slightly more than 33 deaths. These incidents of child ingestion of iron-containing products has led the FDA, The Food and Drug Administration, to propose that any product having more than 30 mg of iron be labeled with a warning about the risks to children.

Iron tablets containing ferrous sulfate most completely on exposure to the stomach acids, meaning that even a few tablets ingested by a child may lead to an overdose. This could lead to liver failure in young children rather rapidly, and treatment modalities for this overdose and toxicity, while effective, has to be accomplished relatively early after the ingestion.

Of course, children should be kept away from many common household products, not just iron pills. This includes aspirin, Tylenol, antibiotics, cleaning products, birth control pills and the like. This all comes under baby-proofing your home, that most family practitioners and pediatricians readily warn parents about. Young children are very curious and active as any parents of young children will attest to.

Obstetricians need to be vigilant in

warning parents with young children about the hazards of common medications like aspirin, cough medicines, iron-containing vitamins, birth control pills and other chemicals and detergents. These products are commonly used around the house and should be safely locked away in cabinets.

Fortunately, there is a newly-marketed prenatal vitamin supplement that has the ability to limit the risk of iron in the vitamin itself. This product contains a form of iron known as carbonyl, which does not dissolve completely on hitting the gastric acid, which greatly slows down its absorption. This reduced absorption results in much less toxicity, since only a small fraction would be absorbed. This new prenatal vitamin is being marketed under the name of prenatal ultra, and is rapidly gaining popularity among obstetricians and patients.

Animal studies have shown that the lethal dose of carbonyl iron is 100 times higher than the lethal dose of ferrous sulfate, the most commonly prescribed type of iron tablets in prenatal vitamins.

It may be slightly more expensive for awhile, but may soon become the medical standard, especially when there are small children already residing in the household.

You should speak to your pediatrician, family doctor or obstetrician about safely securing your home for your small children, locking away any medications — even if you are just taking prenatal vitamins.

Dr. Powers is a board-certified OB/GYN physician practicing in Chesapeake and Virginia Beach and would be delighted to answer any of your questions.

The Doctor Is In

By Dr. Steven Powers, OB/Gyn

Obstetricians need to be vigilant in

Relaxation an enterprise for Norfolk business

Editor's note: This is the second in a two-part series.
By Shawna Chriss

Another form of healing offered at Crystal-Lind on Colley Avenue in Norfolk is Reiki.

Reiki (pronounced: ray-key) literally means "universal life energy" in Japanese. It uses the hands to direct human energies to help or heal someone who is ill.

While Reiki is sometimes labeled as "New Age," it is known to be more than 2,500 years old. Everyone is born with Reiki. It is the energy that emanates from the hands of a Reiki therapist to facilitate healing, which is for the good of the recipient. It can heal by flowing through the affected parts of the energy field and charging them with positive energy.

The goal of Reiki is to clear the energy pathways of the body and bring it into harmony.

Jon Christiansen, a local business-owner, believes in the effectiveness of energy healing, or Reiki.

Christiansen severed the tendons and ligaments in his right leg while captaining the Godspeed, a replica of an early Colonist ship, on its way from England to America. He was cleaning the bottom of the hull when someone on the deck turned the wheel, making the

rudder turn. It caught Christiansen's leg, and nearly tore it off.

"I was never out of pain for 12 years — seven days a week, 365 days a year," said Christiansen.

During that time, Christiansen underwent 21 surgeries on his leg and knee. Nothing worked, leaving him in constant pain.

Christiansen said he tried pain killers, nerve blocks and spinal blocks. These only produced unpleasant side effects.

Christiansen walked with a cane to his first Reiki session at Crystal-Lind. He was taking morphine every day and his doctors were planning to amputate his leg. Christiansen wanted to save it, and was willing to try anything.

For the Reiki session, Christiansen was required to lie down (fully clothed) and open his mind to healing energy.

"I could feel the pain leaving my leg," he said.

After several Reiki treatments, Christiansen now walks without a cane. For the first time in 12 years, he said, he feels good. He has lost four inches off his waist, is more active than he has been in ages and has stopped taking pain medication.

Christiansen's doctor attributes it to a "placebo effect."

Patricia M. Lindgren, co-

founder of Crystal-Lind, points out that she is not against medication or standard medical treatment. She emphasizes that alternative treatments complement traditional medicine and vice-versa.

Crystal-Lind also offers clay therapy and regular pottery classes. Clay therapy helps children and adults learn to

express themselves creatively through pottery. It is another way people can quiet their minds and explore their own possibilities.

Crystal-Lind's motto is "The center of what we do is you!"

For more information or to schedule a session, call Crystal-Lind at 440-5009.

Shawna Chriss is a customer of Crystal-Lind Inc.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Clubs

Princess Anne AARP Chapter 5119 meets at 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 11 at the Princess Anne Recreation Center, 1400 Ferrell Pkwy. Attorney Kevin Rack will discuss living wills and trusts. Visitors are welcome. Prior to the meeting at 12:30 p.m., the Virginia Beach Health Department will provide free blood pressure tests. Call 426-2302 or 430-0104.

Single Parents of Virginia Beach will hold two dances at the Roma Lodge at 3097 Magic Hollow Blvd. on Saturday, March 8 and Saturday, March 22. Both dances will start at 8:30 p.m. The cost for both dances is \$5/members, \$7/non-members. For more information, call 498-2666.

Mother's Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Southside Community Action Team will meet Tuesday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Virginia Beach Central Library, 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd.

Education

The Green Run Elementary PTA will be sponsoring a scholarship spaghetti dinner and dance. The dinner and dance will be held on March 11. The spaghetti dinner will be served in the cafeteria from 5 - 7 p.m. Tickets will be \$4 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Tickets will only be sold in advance at the school from March 3 - 7.

Health

Author and lecturer Dr. George Malkmus will be speaking at a free seminar on "How To Eliminate Sickness" on Friday, March 14 at 7 p.m. at the Moot Courtroom in Robertson Hall at Regent University. For more information, call Elizabeth Kotowski, 424-7373, or James Duane, 579-4336.

Recreation

Genealogy tours presented by the Virginia Beach Genealogical Society will be held at the Central Library (4100 Virginia Beach Blvd.) at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 6. Registration is required. For additional information and registration, call 431-3071.

The Green Run Elementary SCA is sponsoring a movie, "Oliver and Company," on Wednesday, March 5. Students may purchase tickets (\$2 each) at the school through March 4. This movie is appropriate for all age groups. All Green Run Elementary students are invited to purchase a ticket and attend this movie.

Senior wildlife biologist John Gallegos will conduct a program on migratory waterbird management of Back Bay on Saturday, March 1. There will be at 9 a.m. at field walk along dike/trail impoundments following the indoor presentation to observe various refuge water management techniques and flora and fauna. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes; bring field guides and binoculars if available.

Remembering

Continued From Page 2

scene and asked me if I knew Lt. W.W. Jordan Jr. from Dublin, Ga. He said that was the name of the pilot that had been killed.

I just couldn't believe it. I had known Wex almost all of my life. In fact, he was one of my heroes. He was as close to being the all-American boy as they come. He was tall, handsome and a superb athlete. He played football for Dublin and later for Georgia Tech where he was all conference. He played the violin and was known as the "fiddling fullback from Dublin."

The hardest thing I have ever had to do was to write his parents and tell them that I saw their only son die so far from home. Forever etched in my subconscious mind is the tragic death of Wex Jordan.

Yes, the story of Lt. Adams had a happy ending, but the one about Lt. W.W. Jordan Jr. did not. I truly believe that God took Wex Jordan home with him that said day in 1943. I also believe that God was watching over those of us who returned home safely.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia will be held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Building, Municipal Center, Princess Anne Station, Virginia Beach, Virginia, on Tuesday, March 11, 1997 at 6:30 p.m., at which time the following applications will be heard:

1. Application of Alice Rose Vaughan for an enlargement of a nonconforming use on property located at the southwestern extremity of Ridge Road. Said parcel contains 1.82 acres. VIRGINIA BEACH BOROUGH.

2. An Ordinance upon Application of Riganto, L.L.C., for a Change of Zoning District Classification from AG-1 & AG-2 Agricultural Districts to Conditional R-7.5 Residential District at the southeast intersection of Holland Road and Proposed Ferrell Parkway. The proposed zoning classification change to Conditional R-7.5 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 7,500 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban low density at densities that are compatible with single-family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel contains 12 acres. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

3. An Ordinance upon Application of Moore Farm Associates for a Change of Zoning District Classification from B-2 Community Business District to A-12 Apartment District on certain property located at the northeast corner of Wesleyan Drive and Heatherwood Drive. The proposed zoning classification change to A-12 is for multifamily residential land use at a density no greater than 12 dwelling units per acre. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for retail/service use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel contains 1.816 acres. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

4. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance, Subdivision for Baymark Construction Corporation. Property is located on the north side of Indian River Road, 5000 feet more or less west of West Neck Road. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

5. An Ordinance upon Application of Baymark Construction Corporation for a Conditional Change of Zoning District Classification from AG-1 and AG-2 Agricultural Districts to Conditional R-40 Residential District on certain property located on the north side of Indian River Road, 5000 feet more or less west of West Neck Road. The proposed zoning classification change to Conditional R-40 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 40,000 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for agricultural use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel contains 36 acres. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

6. Application of Baymark Construction Corporation for the modification of conditions placed on applications for changes of zoning on January 4, 1994. Property is located on the north side of Indian River Road, west of West Neck Road. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

7. Motion of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, to amend and reordin Sections 30-57, 30-61 and 30-75 of the City Code pertaining to the Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance.

8. An Ordinance upon Application of RHEMA Outreach Center for a Conditional Use Permit for a church at the southeast corner of Baker Road and Weblin Drive. Said parcel is located at 800 Baker Road and contains 3 acres more or less. BAYSIDE BOROUGH. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Ruth Hodges Smith, CMC/AEE City Clerk
If you are physically disabled or visually impaired and need assistance at this meeting, please call the CITY CLERK'S OFFICE at 427-4303; Hearing impaired, call TDD only 427-4305 (TDD Telephonic Device for the Deaf)

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Virginia Beach Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 12, 1997 at 12:00 Noon in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Building, Princess Anne Courthouse, Virginia Beach, Virginia. A briefing session will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the City Manager's Conference Room, City Hall Building. PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION IS NOT A FINAL DETERMINATION OF THE APPLICATION, BUT ONLY A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL AS THE VIEWPOINT OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION. FINAL DETERMINATION OF THE APPLICATION IS TO BE MADE BY CITY COUNCIL AT A LATER DATE, AFTER PUBLIC NOTICE IN A NEWSPAPER HAVING GENERAL CIRCULATION WITHIN THE CITY.

THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE PUBLIC HEARING SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT, FOR REASONS THE PLANNING COMMISSION DEEMS APPROPRIATE, CERTAIN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA MAY BE HEARD OUT OF ORDER AND THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE ASSUMED THAT THE ORDER LISTED BELOW WILL BE EXACTLY FOLLOWED DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING.

The staff reviews of some or all of the items on this agenda suggest that certain conditions be attached to approval by City Council. However, it should not be assumed that those conditions constitute all the conditions that will ultimately be attached to the project. Staff agencies may impose further conditions and requirements during administration of applicable city ordinances.

SUBDIVISION VARIANCE:

1. Appeal from Decisions of Administrative Officers in regard to certain elements of the Subdivision Ordinance, Subdivision for Miles B. Leon. Property is located on Watersedge Road on Parcel 7, Parkway Manor, Lynnhaven Borough.

2. An Ordinance upon Application of Wireless PCS Inc. Agent for AT&T Wireless PCS Inc., for a Conditional Use Permit for a communication tower on Lots 49 and 50, Shelton Place. Said parcel is located at 1707 Lawson Road and contains 25,957 square feet. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

CHANGE OF ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

3. An Ordinance upon Application of 3 Mac Associates, L.C. for a Change of Zoning District Classification from AG1 and AG2 Agricultural Districts, R-20 Residential District and R-10 Residential District on certain property located on the west side of Princess Anne Road beginning at a point 100 feet more or less south of Three Oaks Drive. The proposed zoning classification change to conditional R-10 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 10,000 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban low density residential land use at densities that are compatible with single-family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 12.007 acres. PRINCESS ANNE BOROUGH.

4. An Ordinance upon Application of Paul D. Rowan for a Change of Zoning District Classification from I-1 Light Industrial District to AG2 Agricultural District on the west side of S. Birdneck Road beginning at a point 840 feet north of Bell Road. The proposed zoning classification change to AG2 is for agricultural land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for industrial use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 15 acres more or less. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

5. An Ordinance upon Application of Paul D. Rowan for a Conditional Use Permit for a veterinary hospital and boarding of horses on the west side of S. Birdneck Road, 840 feet north of Bell Road. Said parcel contains 15 acres more or less. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

6. An Ordinance upon Application of Vencor, Inc., for a Conditional Use Permit for a nursing home expansion at the northeast corner of Bonney Road and S. Budding Avenue. Said parcel is located at 4142 Bonney Road and contains 5

STREET CLOSURE

Application of C. David Whitley for the discontinuance, closure and abandonment of a portion of Christine Drive located at the eastern boundary of the Norfolk Southern RR at the intersection with Secotan Rd. Said parcel is variable in width and contains 818.20 square feet. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

DEFERRED BY PLANNING COMMISSION ON 10/9/96:

8. An Ordinance upon Application of Zimmer Development Co. of Virginia, L.P., for a Change of Zoning District Classification from R-7.5 Residential District and B-2 Community Business District to Conditional B-1 Neighborhood Business District on certain property located at the northwest corner of Princess Anne Road and S. Parliament Drive. The proposed zoning classification change to B-1 is for commercial land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for single family residential at densities that are compatible with single family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel contains 1.6 acres. KEMPSSVILLE BOROUGH.

9. An Ordinance upon Application of Sarah J. Corey for a Conditional Use Permit for a home occupation (rest home) on the east side of Baker Road beginning at a point 140.73 feet south of Lawson Hall Road. Said parcel is located at 1028 Baker Road and contains 14,850 square feet. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

DEFERRED BY PLANNING COMMISSION ON 12-11-96.

10. An Ordinance upon Application of Contractors Paving Company, Inc., for a Change of Zoning District Classification from O-1 Office District to Conditional I-2 Heavy Industrial District on property located between Avenue E and Rodriguez Drive beginning at a point 300 feet more or less south of Bonney Road and running in a southerly direction to the northern boundary of the Virginia Beach-Norfolk Expressway. The proposed zoning classification change to Conditional I-2 is for heavy industrial land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for office use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcels contain 9.02 acres. LYNNHAVEN BOROUGH.

11. Application of Econo Lube-Tune, Inc. for the modification of conditions placed on the application for a change of zoning district classification from O-2 Office District to Conditional B-2 Community Business District on May 26, 1992. Property is located at 1324 Kempville Road. KEMPSSVILLE BOROUGH.

12. An Ordinance upon Application of Econo Lube-Tune, Inc. for a Conditional Use Permit for an automotive repair establishment on the east side of Kempville Road, 450 feet more or less north of Indian River Road. Said parcel is located at 1324 Kempville Road and contains 17,859.5 square feet. KEMPSSVILLE BOROUGH.

13. An Ordinance upon Application of Ricardo Lewis, New Direction Development Co., L.L.C. for a Change of Zoning District Classification from AG-1 & AG-2 Agricultural District to R-10 Residential on certain property located on the north side of Painters Lane beginning at a point 300 feet more or less west of Townfield Lane. The proposed zoning classification change to R-10 is for single family residential land use on lots no less than 10,000 square feet. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban low density residential at densities that are compatible with single-family use in accordance with other Plan policies.

14. An Ordinance upon Application of Exxon Corporation for a Conditional Use Permit for an automobile service station in conjunction with a convenience store with fast food at the northwest corner of Virginia Beach Boulevard and Independence Boulevard. Said parcel is located at 4600 Virginia Beach Boulevard and contains 35,632 square feet. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

15. An Ordinance upon Application of Gray Lumber Co., a VA Corporation, Grayland Company, L.P., NationsBank, N.A. and Elmon T. Gray for a Change of Zoning District Classification from O-2 Office District to Conditional H-1 Hotel District on the south side of Cleveland Street, 743 feet for more less east of Newtown Road. The proposed zoning classification change to H-1 is for hotel land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for business/research center use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel contains 2.44 acres. BAYSIDE BOROUGH.

17. An Ordinance upon Application of Brian J. and Stefany Dolmat for a Change of Zoning District Classification from R-5D Residential Duplex District to Conditional O-1 Office District at the southwest corner of Virginia Beach Boulevard and Thalia Road. The proposed zoning classification change to O-1 is for office land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban high density residential at densities that are compatible with single family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel is located at 221 Thalia Road and contains 16,000 square feet. KEMPSSVILLE BOROUGH.

18. An Ordinance upon Application of R.S. Dixon & Co., for a Change of Zoning District Classification from A-12 Apartment District to RT-3 Resort Tourist District on property located at the southwest intersection of 30th Street and Arcine Avenue. The proposed zoning classification change to RT-3 is for resort/tourist land use. The Comprehensive Plan recommends use of this parcel for suburban high density residential at densities that are compatible with single family use in accordance with other Plan policies. Said parcel contains 32, 328 square feet. VIRGINIA BEACH BOROUGH.

AMENDMENT

19. Motion of the City of Virginia Beach to amend Sections 111, 207, 232, 301, 401, 501, 601, 701, 801, 901, 1001 and 1305 of the City Zoning Ordinance pertaining to communication towers and antennas.

20. Motion of the City of Virginia Beach to amend and reordin Section 111 of the City Zoning Ordinance pertaining to definition of a lodging unit.

All interested parties are invited to attend.

Robert J. Scott
Planning Director
If you are physically disabled or visually impaired and need assistance at this meeting, please call the CITY CLERK'S OFFICE at 427-4303.
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21. 2-28

22. 2-28



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EVERYDAY PEOPLE. Project Youth Educating Through Art (YEA) recently presented an AIDS awareness program at Virginia Beach Central Library. The show featured dancers and other performers through the coordinated efforts of the American Red Cross-Tidewater Chapter and the Southside Boys and Girls Club.

Young people reach out to peers for AIDS prevention

By M.J. KNOBLOCK

Sun Correspondent

Nearly 3,000 people in Hampton Roads have tested HIV-positive in Hampton Roads. More than 50 percent of those people are African-American.

Because HIV, or Human Immunodeficiency Virus, causes AIDS, some local agencies joined forces last weekend to present an AIDS awareness program, "The Diversity of AIDS," at the Virginia Beach Central Library as part of the library's Black History Month series "A Community Celebrates Roots of Diversity."

Youth Educating through Art (YEA) is a collaborative effort of the Tidewater Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Southside Boys and Girls Club.

"The point of this program is to educate the community on the prevention of HIV and AIDS," said Kristin Bradley, HIV/AIDS coordinator for the Tidewater Chapter of the Red Cross.

"This is also in honor of Black History Month because of the incidence of HIV in the African-American community and because the incidence is so high in African-American youth, we decided to take this non-traditional or creative approach with the hopes of getting the attention of this particular audience."

The young dancers were enthusiastic about the show, but took the topic very seriously. "Part of them being in the performance, they all had to be educated in HIV and AIDS," said Bradley. "I think they're getting something out of doing this and in terms of boosting their self-esteem."

Bradley said the message Project YEA is trying to convey is an important one with countless repercussions.

"We hope that people will be encouraged to learn more about HIV prevention," she said. "Not only learn more, but take a more

active approach in their community by it helping people who are infected or teaching others."

Girlie Lewis McCauley is the girls coordinator and performing arts director for the Southside Boys and Girls Club in Norfolk.

She said that more recent results in AIDS research is eye-opening and that people need to understand the importance of HIV infection prevention.

"After all the research they have done, they're learning that the AIDS virus stays in your body for 10 years," said McCauley.

Most people are unaware of this fact, and it could kill them.

That is why YEA is focusing on young people. The more that know how to prevent risk, the more that can be saved from contracting the HIV virus and AIDS.

"We've found you need to know more about HIV and AIDS so when you make your choices of having sex or doing drugs or whatever, you have to realize that in your adult life, this is when these decisions catch up with you," McCauley explained. "Most kids do things for the moment. They don't realize it will affect them for life."

During the program at the library, spectators were informed about a variety of issues dealing with AIDS and HIV prevention through the use of rap and other music.

Topics included who gets HIV, compassion and support, demonstrations, social impact and hope.

By targeting teens and youngsters before they make the wrong decisions, Project YEA hopes to slow down the increase of HIV positive tests in Hampton Roads.

"If they know AIDS will affect you for this long and stay in your body, they might make better decisions in what they do with their body," McCauley noted. "You only get one."

Continued From Page 1

Susan Richardson, an art teacher at Woodstock Elementary School, came to the workshop because she uses several of Barrett's books as texts in classes.

"They're extremely readable," said Richardson. "In his books, he talks sense about what we have to do."

Art criticism is a fairly new concept to teachers like Richardson.

"When I got out of college, the topic of art criticism was mentioned, but not talked about in depth. But there's a need for that. Also, I wanted to meet the man. I have a great respect for his work."

Leslie Barham, an art teacher at Landstown Middle School, said there needs to be more emphasis on art in the schools. She and Richardson agreed that they will, more than likely, be the last art instructors for most of the children they teach.

"A lot of times, if we don't teach them these things, they won't get it anywhere else," said Barham.

Each year, the number of students taking art courses drops, they said, because students must make choices about what should

"I'm impressed with the school system," said Barrett. "I saw a lot of really good art teachers. I saw kids genuinely interested in looking at art and talking about art."

One of his most intriguing encounters came at Kempville High School during a 90-minute conversation with AP Art History students.

"In that conversation we were philosophical about art and using the work of Anne Leibowicz, a well-known artist known for her art with celebrities," Barrett noted. "She's worked as both an artist and journalist."

Barrett said that discussion "was as good as any discussion I've had with my college kids."

They touched upon topics such as how art is judged from a philosophical point of view.

"I was really impressed with how respectful the kids were of each other and how well they listened to each other," Barrett smiled.

Although the students sometimes disagreed, he said, they did not trade insults. Instead, they reasoned out their differences and backed up their arguments thoughtfully.

While Barrett was impressed with the students, the teachers at his workshop were dually impressed with Barrett.

Japan bound

Continued From Page 1

Broadway shows in New York, but the night they returned from the Big Apple they were to perform at Lakeside Middle School.

Students take afternoon classes at The Governor's School which is approaching its 10th anniversary in September. Neal attends Cox from 7:30 - 11:10 a.m., and then studies at The Governor's School at Old Dominion University from 1 - 4 p.m. The Governor's program also takes place at Norfolk State University, The Virginia Ballet Theater and the Monroe Building/Wells Theatre. Acceptance into the program is based on audition performances.

Neal, who studies singing, dancing and acting at the art school, says, "I like all three, because if you really want to be a performer you have to be good at all three or else you're going to die in New York City. What I've been working on most is my dance, but I still really love singing, dancing and acting. Love it all."

Neal is ecstatic about the opportunity to visit Japan and although he's the only non-senior traveling with the group, a part of him feels like he has finally caught up with the others.

"All my freshman year I was called 'the freshman,'" he chuckled. "I had to be 'the freshman,'" he recalled. "Last year was when the group was started and so I was only a little freshman — every one else was either juniors or seniors."

Nevertheless, Neal does admit to feeling really special in being the only freshman, so being labeled "the freshman" never discouraged enthusiastic Neal and according to his mom, the guys in the group who are also traveling to Japan are Neal's "very best buddies."

At 15, Neal already has a full resume listing tons of professional stage performances, television appearances, arts training, special recognitions and many talents other than skills in singing, dancing and acting. Neal has been doing theatrical work since he was about 8, but it was at First Baptist Church of Norfolk when his first auditioned for a part at only 7 — and it was a successful audition at that. At 11 he made his debut to professional theatre and at 13 he performed with the Virginia Stage Company.

Neal's advice to potential performing arts students is: "Don't be scared. The worst thing that you can do in the arts is hide, because you might have so much hidden talent under there — so be yourself and just go at it."

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'American Girls' benefit Beach's St. Matthews

Military Circle Mall will host the area's first ice cream social for Pleasant Company's American Girls character Samantha on March 15 - 16 to benefit St. Matthews School in Virginia Beach.

The event is inspired by the stories of Samantha Parkington — one of five fictional characters from the phenomenally popular American Girls Collection of books and dolls. This is the first event of its kind in the region, and is expected to draw fans from across Virginia, North Carolina and Maryland.

The ice cream social events will be held at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 15 and also at noon and 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 16. The program will feature an entertaining and educational video presentation showing what life was like in America during Samantha's time — the turn of the century —

including the advent of the ice cream cone and automobile, the suffrage movement, etc.

Activities will include napkin folding and ice cream making demonstrations, sing-a-longs from the Victorian period (i.e., "A Bicycle Built for Two") and fun lessons on good old-fashioned manners. Other highlights will be scrumptious ice cream sundaes, prizes, etc. Guests are encouraged to dress up and bring their American Girls Collection dolls. A raffle will be held with prizes including a Samantha Parkington doll, a handmade Victorian doll house, and Samantha's party and bedroom settings.

Tickets are available now for \$20 per person (\$10 is tax-deductible). Early registration is recommended, as space is very limited. Call St. Matthews School at 424-5194 for information.

Educators take new approach to art

and will fit into their tight academic schedules.

Often, art is an elective that must compete with other, more lucrative choices.

"We're biased," said Barham. "We think they should all have art every year. But that's not the way it is."

Wolcott noted that the emphasis on art in the schools must continue for the betterment of children's education.

"They learn about the world," she explained. "They learn about life. They learn about everyone. Art is the messenger of our

culture. If we can learn to understand what art is about, we can understand what our present and past societies are and were about."

Teachers are teaching more than just subjects, however.

"In our art classes and particularly with art criticism, students learn high order thinking skills, critical thinking, analytical thinking, problem-solving and they learn to write about art, so they develop writing skills," said Wolcott. "They learn to talk about art so they develop communication skills."

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Start oral hygiene early

From first tooth to braces, children have dental care needs that require special attention, some parents may be surprised to learn that according to the National Institute of Dental Research, most children do not have the dexterity to brush their teeth properly until age 7.

"Children need assistance with brushing at an older age than many parents may realize," said Dr. Nolen Levine of Periodontal Associates Ltd. in Chicago.

"Parents need to educate their children early and monitor their brushing habits to make sure their kids are brushing thoroughly. Studies show that neglectful oral care during childhood and adolescence can cause many periodontal problems later in life."

Dr. Levine offers parents some advice in ensuring that their children practice proper dental care:

■ During the first month of life, a baby's gums should be wiped with a damp washcloth after every feeding.

■ Parents should start brushing their child's teeth as soon as the

first tooth erupts, and begin flossing them when primary teeth come in, usually by age 2.

■ A first visit to the dentist should be scheduled between 6 and 12 months of age. To best prepare a toddler for the appointment, let him or her know what to expect at the visit.

■ If your child lacks the patience to brush thoroughly or has difficulty maneuvering the brush to clean hard-to-reach areas of the mouth, an automatic plaque remover may be the answer. A quality model automatically employs the optimum brushing technique for effective cleaning — and helps to put some fun into brushing so that children will brush longer and more frequently.

Teaching a child about how to care for teeth and gums offers parents a great opportunity to reevaluate their own oral care routines. As the latest findings show, the fight against plaque and periodontal disease is lifelong, and proper dental care is important at any age.

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